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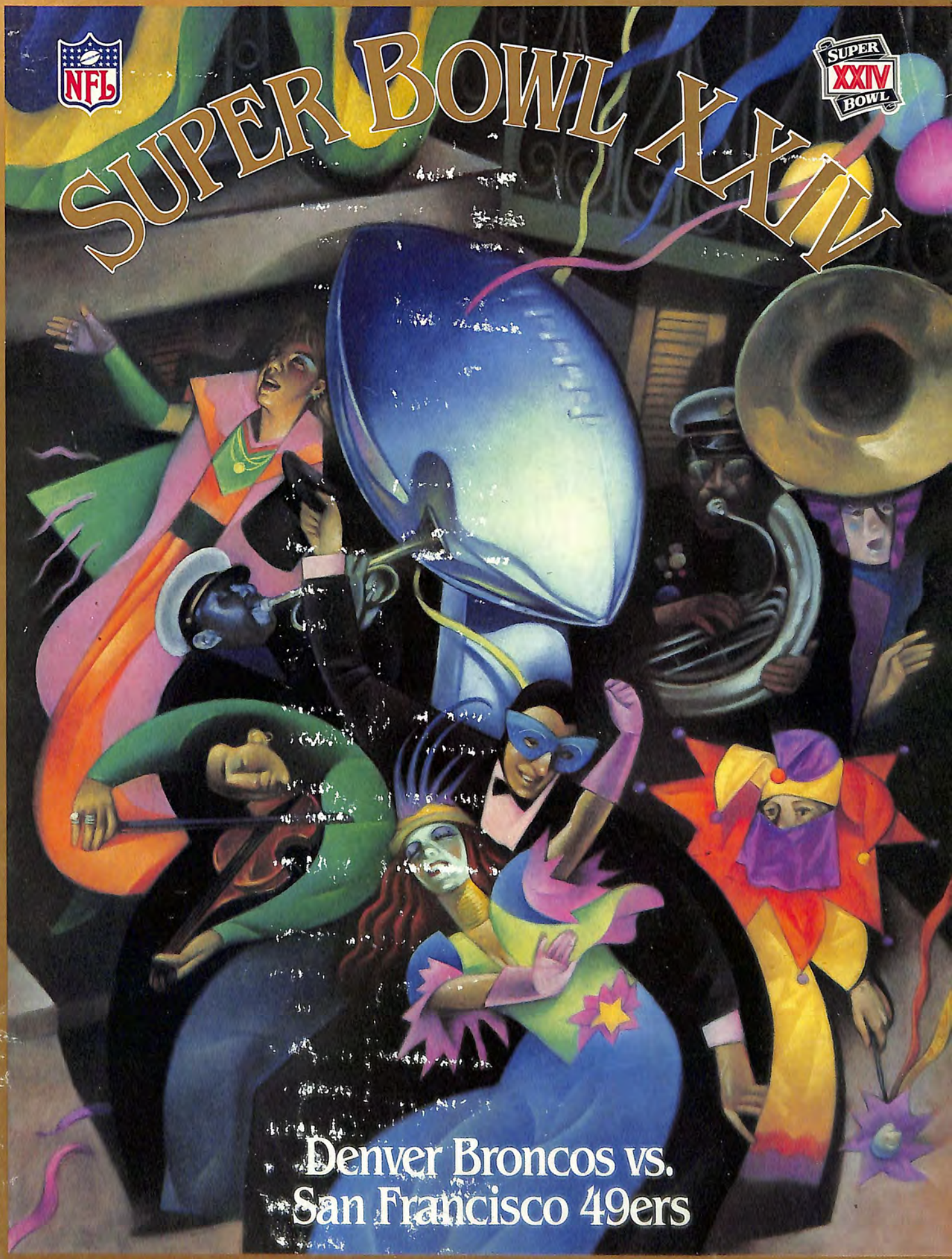

AFC vs. NFC for The NFL Championship and The Vince Lombardi Trophy • Sunday, January 28, 1990 • 4:00 P.M. Louisiana Superdome • New Orleans

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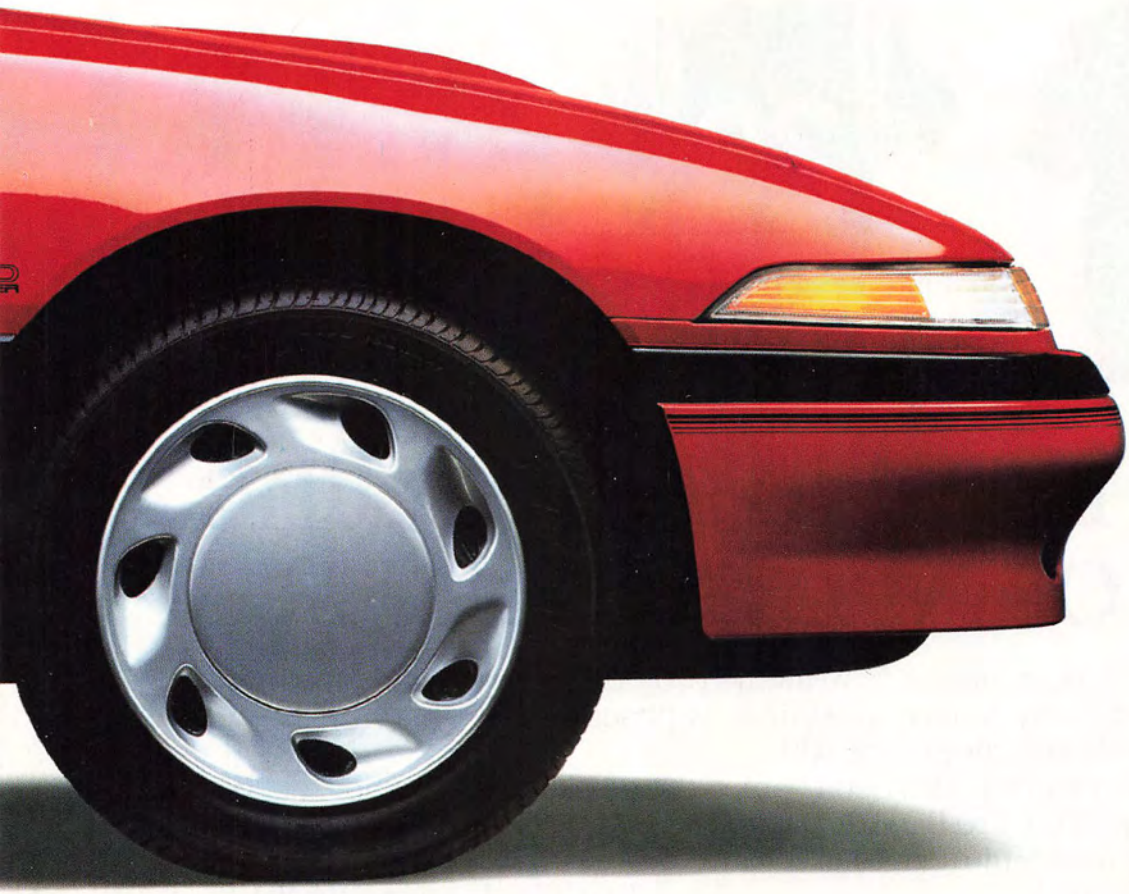

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SUPER XXIV BOWL

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Contents

Warm-Up

Your guide to Super Bowl XXIV—all the facts, along with a schedule of today's pregame and halftime events.

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Scouting Report

The strengths and weaknesses of the AFC and NFC champions are detailed in a complete analysis, augmented by statistical matchup charts and individual statistics.

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Images of the '80s

The 1980s had something for everybody...from the Team of the Decade, the 49ers, and its star quarterback Joe Montana ...to the Fog Bowl in Chicago in 1988...to the 1981 epic playoff game in which San Diego beat Miami 41-38...to record setters such as Walter Payton. Here is a photographic reflection on a decade that had a little of everything.

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Len's Nightmare, Len's Dream

Super Bowl IV, the last game between the AFL and NFL—the Chiefs against the Minnesota Vikings—was played under a shadow of controversy. But Chiefs quarterback Len Dawson ignored the pressure and turned in a near-perfect performance.

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Hot Stuff!

New Orleans is full of treats: its food, its music, its party atmosphere. But it also is a treat for the eyes, and this photographic essay shows how it is 'Way Down Yonder in New Orleans.

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1989 Replay

Relive the excitement, the drama, and color of the seventieth NFL season in a week-by-week review in words and photographs.

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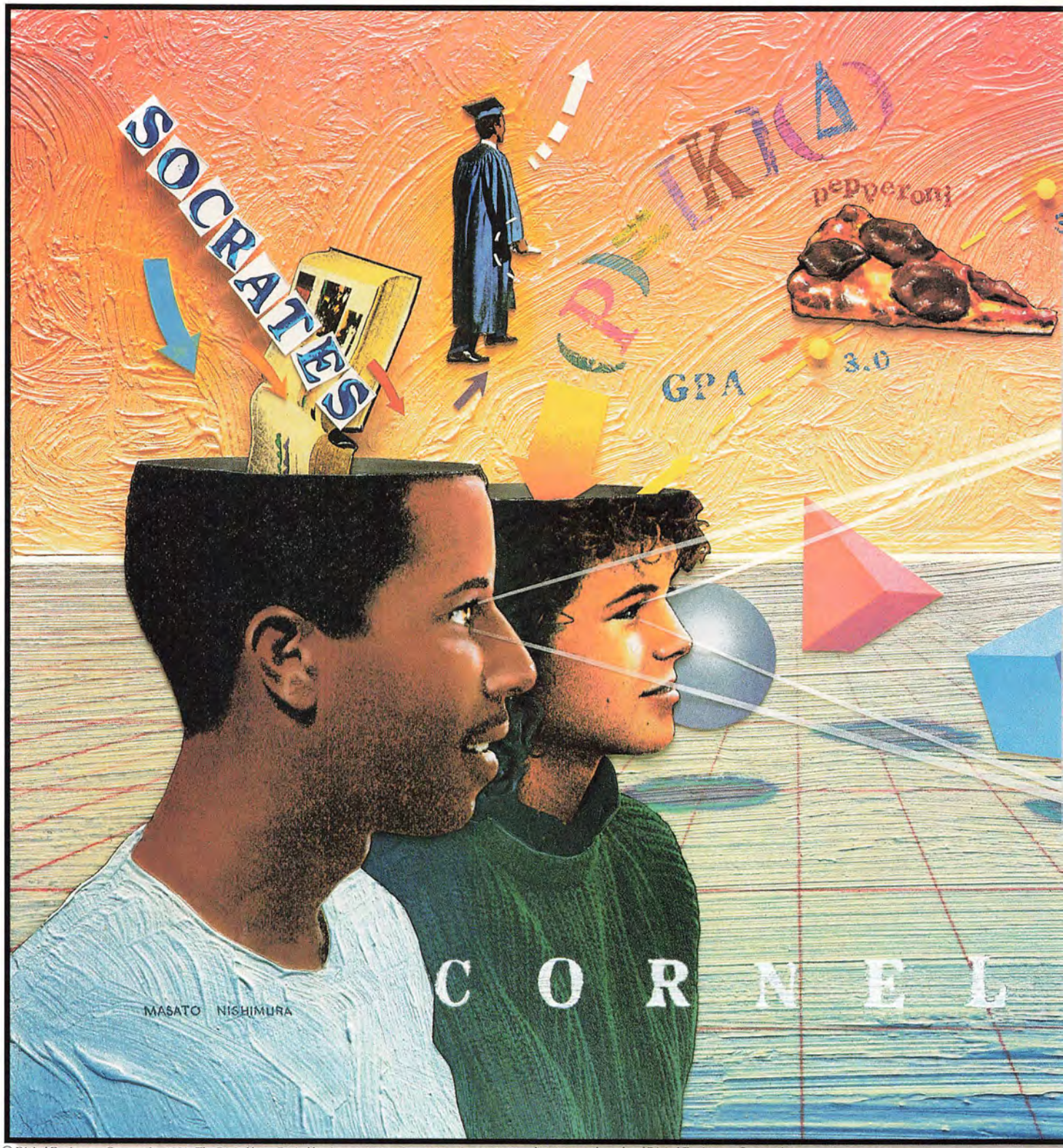

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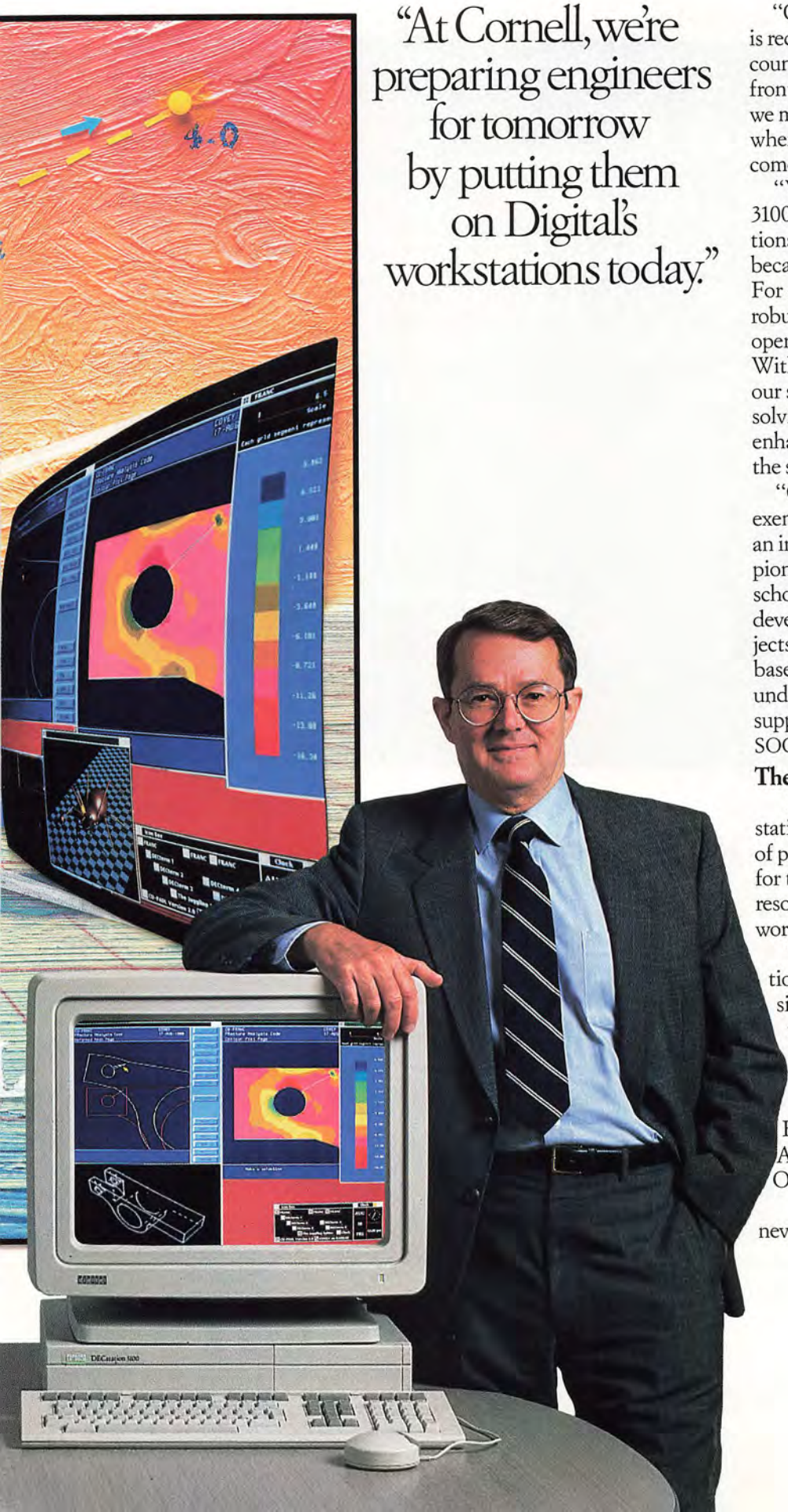

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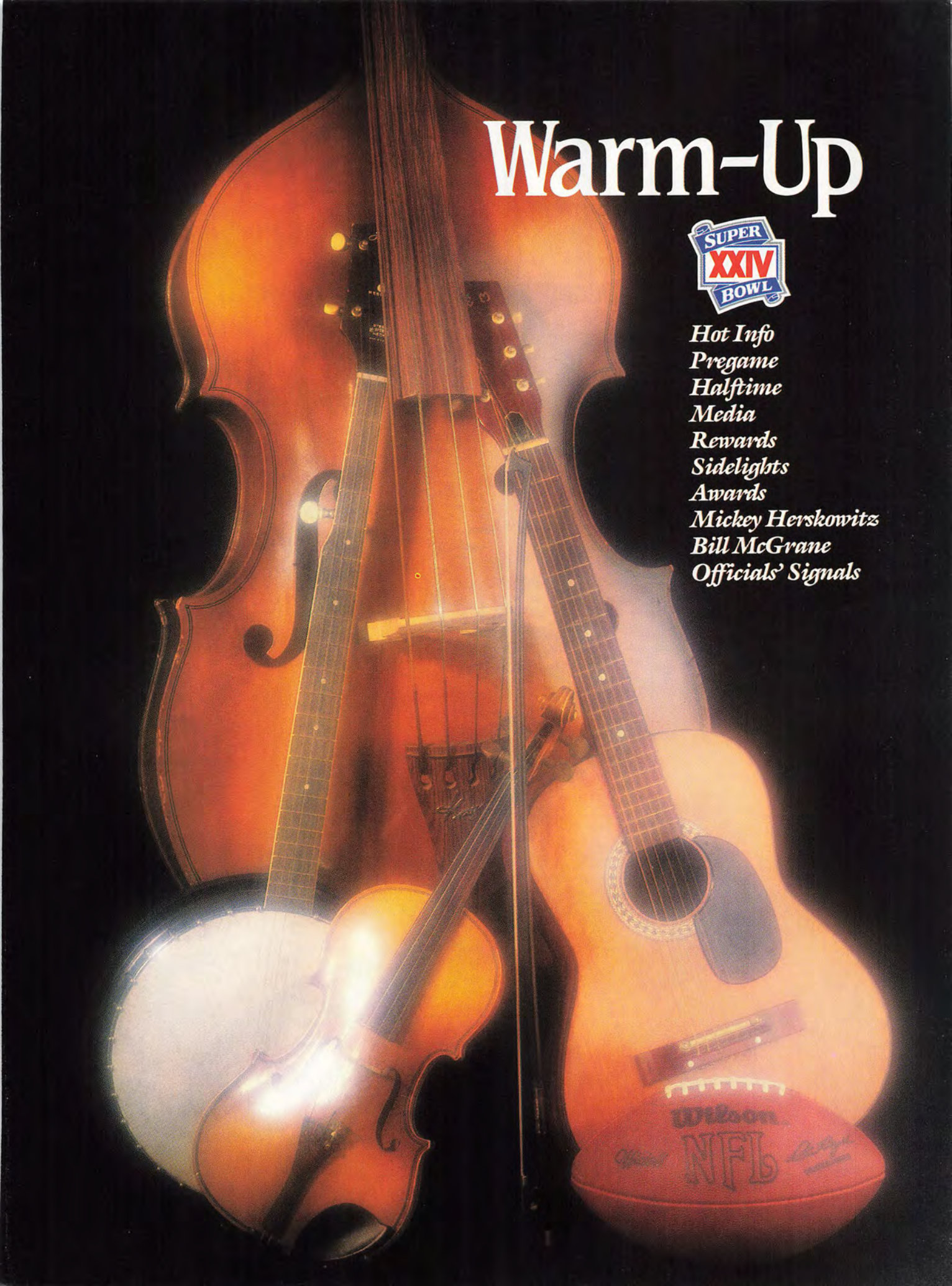
Warm-Up
SUPER XXIV BOWL
Hot Info
Pregame
Halftime
Media
Rewards
Sidelights
Awards
Mickey Herskowitz
Bill McGrane
Officials' Signals
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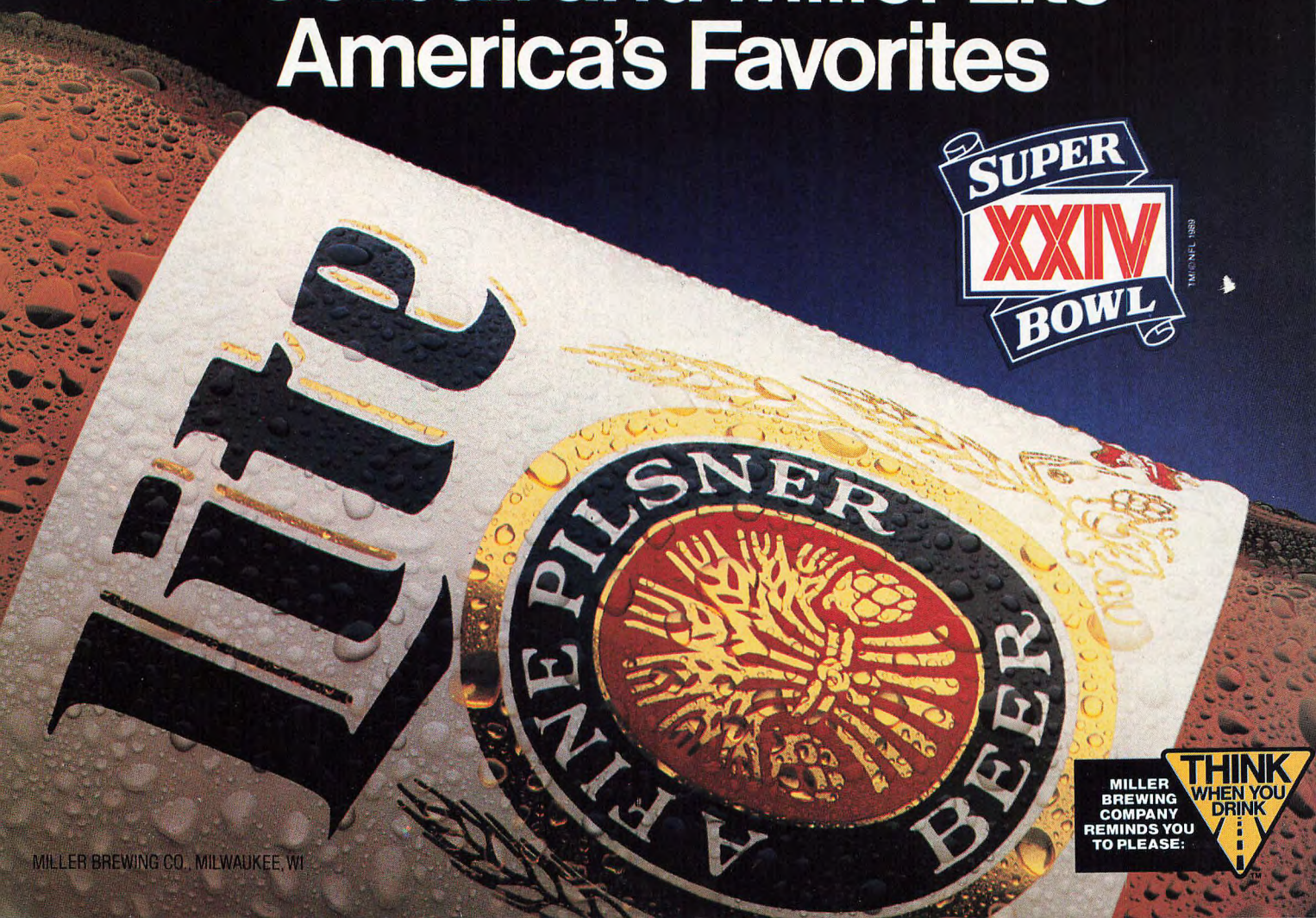
NFL

THIRST DOWN

Football and Miller Lite America's Favorites



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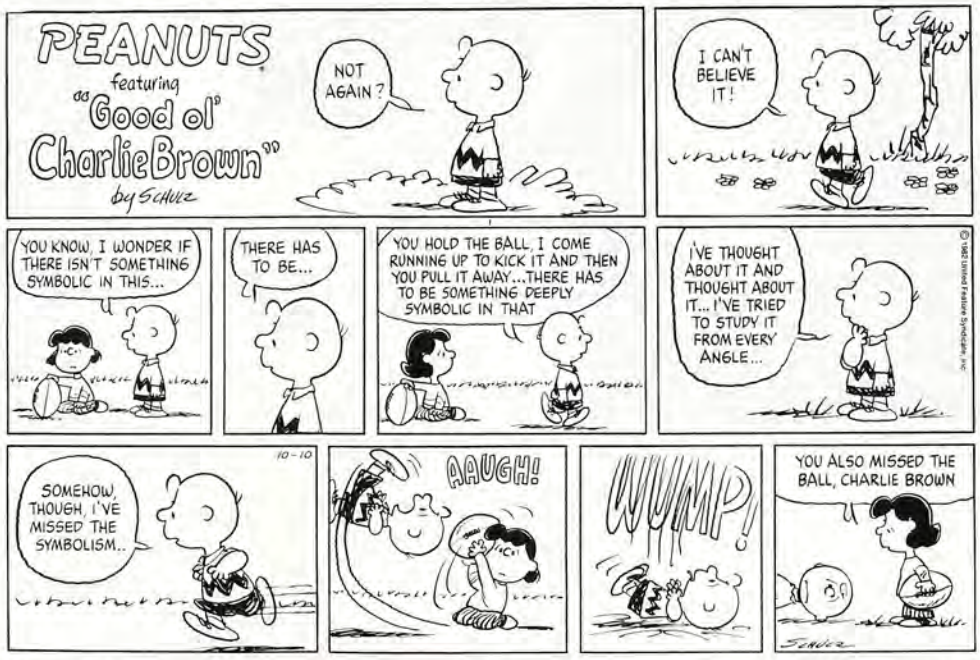
PEANUTS
featuring
as "Good ol' CharlieBrown"
by Schulz
NOT AGAIN?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
YOU KNOW, I WONDER IF THERE ISN'T SOMETHING SYMBOLIC IN THIS...
THERE HAS TO BE...
YOU HOLD THE BALL, I COME RUNNING UP TO KICK IT AND THEN YOU PULL IT AWAY...THERE HAS TO BE SOMETHING DEEPLY SYMBOLIC IN THAT
I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT AND THOUGHT ABOUT IT... I'VE TRIED TO STUDY IT FROM EVERY ANGLE...
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10-10
SOMEHOW, THOUGH, I'VE MISSED THE SYMBOLISM..
AAUGH!
WUMP!
YOU ALSO MISSED THE BALL, CHARLIE BROWN
SCHULZ

THE NFL WILL HELP Charles M. Schulz's "Peanuts" characters celebrate their fortieth anniversary at halftime today during an all-star musical salute to New Orleans and the South. The "Peanuts" gang—Snoopy, Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus, and Schroeder—will join featured performers Pete Fountain, "New Orleans's Ambassador of Jazz;" the "Ragin' Cajun," Doug Kershaw; and the "Soul Queen of New Orleans," Irma Thomas to give the in-stadium and television audience a taste of the "Crescent City" from Mardi Gras to a Cajun hoedown to a Mississippi river boat. Included in the extravaganza's cast and crew of more than 1,500 are 400 dancers; a 500-voice choir made up of singers from Dillard University, the Gospel Soul Children, and local high schools; three of the region's finest marching bands from the University of Southwest Louisiana, Southern University, and Nicholls State University; and an official Mardi Gras krewe (special Mardi Gras-oriented organizations that participate and perform in Mardi Gras parades in elaborate costumes), the Krewe of Caesars.

Halftime producers Dennis Despie and Ron Miziker have more Super Bowl experience than most NFL teams. The twosome helped stage the halftime shows for Super Bowls XI, XVIII, and XXI when both worked for Walt Disney Productions. They formed their own company, Despie & Miziker Productions, in 1988, with offices located in Hollywood and Tustin, California.

"The show has a unique character," Miziker says of his production, which is formally titled "A New Orleans Spectacular: Celebrating 40 Years of Happiness With Peanuts."

"It combines cartoon animation and live action for the first time at an event of this kind and this magnitude."

The New Orleans location made their jobs easier, Despie adds. "We were thrilled by the outstanding response and support we received from the local performers," he explains. "New Orleans offers such a tremendous wealth of talented individuals and organizations with that special blend of Southern style and Cajun flair."

Schulz's "Peanuts" comic strip made its debut on October 2, 1950. Since then it has grown to enormous popularity and has become the world's most widely syndicated strip. Originally in just seven newspapers, "Peanuts" now appears in 2,200, reaching more than 200 million readers a day in 68 countries. Over the past 40 years, "Peanuts" has expanded to prominence in the entertainment and publishing industries as the basis for 40 animated television specials, 1,000 books, four feature films, a stage play (*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*), and, through United Media Licensing, thousands of licensed products, including the NFL's own Snoopy line.

Unlike many other successful cartoonists, Schulz continues to draw every figure in the strip, more than 14,000 of which have appeared to date. Schulz has won two Reuben Awards, given by the National Cartoonists Society, and has been inducted into the Cartoonists Hall of Fame.

Halftime Credits

Producers: Dennis Despie and Ron Miziker
Associate Producer: Deana Sterr
Director: Dee Dee Wood
Musical Director: Jack Eskew
Costume Designer: Garland Riddle
Production Manager: Mark Thompson
Technical Director: Larry Estrin
Engineer in Charge: Dale Whealton
Peanuts Animation: Lee Mendelson Productions and Bill Melendez
Band Director: Dr. Arthur Bartner
Choir Director: Carver Davenport
Choreographers: Tommy Peel and Keri Keaney
Director of Business Affairs: Richard Elliott
Art Director: Charles Lisanby
Production Coordinator: Bobby Miziker
Assistant Costume Designer: Katina Kerr
Wardrobe Supervisor: Mary Morton
Production Associates: Margaret Fenza and Brian Despie
Location Coordinators: Leslie Cocran and Willie Paretti
Special Assistant to the Producers: Lesslee Fitzmorris

Aaron Neville sings National Anthem.

Helmut Werb

Doug Kershaw performs at halftime.

Irma Thomas adds halftime soul.

Halftime entertainer Pete Fountain

Al Hirschfield

Super Bowl Mardi Gras

The "Big Easy" comes to the pregame show in a big way this year, with a tribute to Mardi Gras. An introduction of pregame show host and king (and former New Orleans Saints quarterback) Archie Manning precedes a medley of Mardi Gras music that features singer David Clayton Thomas, formerly of the band Blood, Sweat, and Tears. Thomas performs to a backdrop of music and dance provided by New Orleans's own St. Augustine High School marching band and the American All-Stars dance group. A Mardi Gras parade, featuring the Bacchus and Zulu krewes, will make for a truly grand finale.

The performance marks producer Bob Best's sixth pregame show. His staff includes associate producer Ed Jones and choreographer Lesslee Fitzmorris. The soundtrack for the Mardi Gras was coordinated by Ronnie Kole.

The pregame entertainment continues with the introductions of players from the AFC and NFC champion teams. In honor of the U.S. Coast Guard's 200th anniversary, a Coast Guard color guard then will take the field, along with the U.S. Army 50-State Flag Team. Recording star and New Orleans native Aaron Neville will sing the National Anthem as an 82-foot by 47-foot American flag, provided by grand-scale flag collector Ski Demski, is lowered from the ceiling.

The members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame class of 1989 will meet the captains of the competing teams at midfield for the ceremonial toss of the coin. The latest Hall of Fame members are former cornerback Mel Blount (Pittsburgh, 1970-1983), quarterback Terry Bradshaw (Pittsburgh, 1970-1983), tackle (and now head coach) Art Shell (Oakland/Los Angeles Raiders, 1968-1982), and safety Willie Wood (Green Bay, 1960-1971). What do the four men have in common—besides their greatness? Each played in at least two Super Bowls.

There also will be a Super Bowl postgame show, a fireworks display sponsored by the City of New Orleans—staged outside the Superdome, of course. ◆

At-a-Glance Guide to Today's Game

Kickoff Time: 4:00 P.M. (CST)

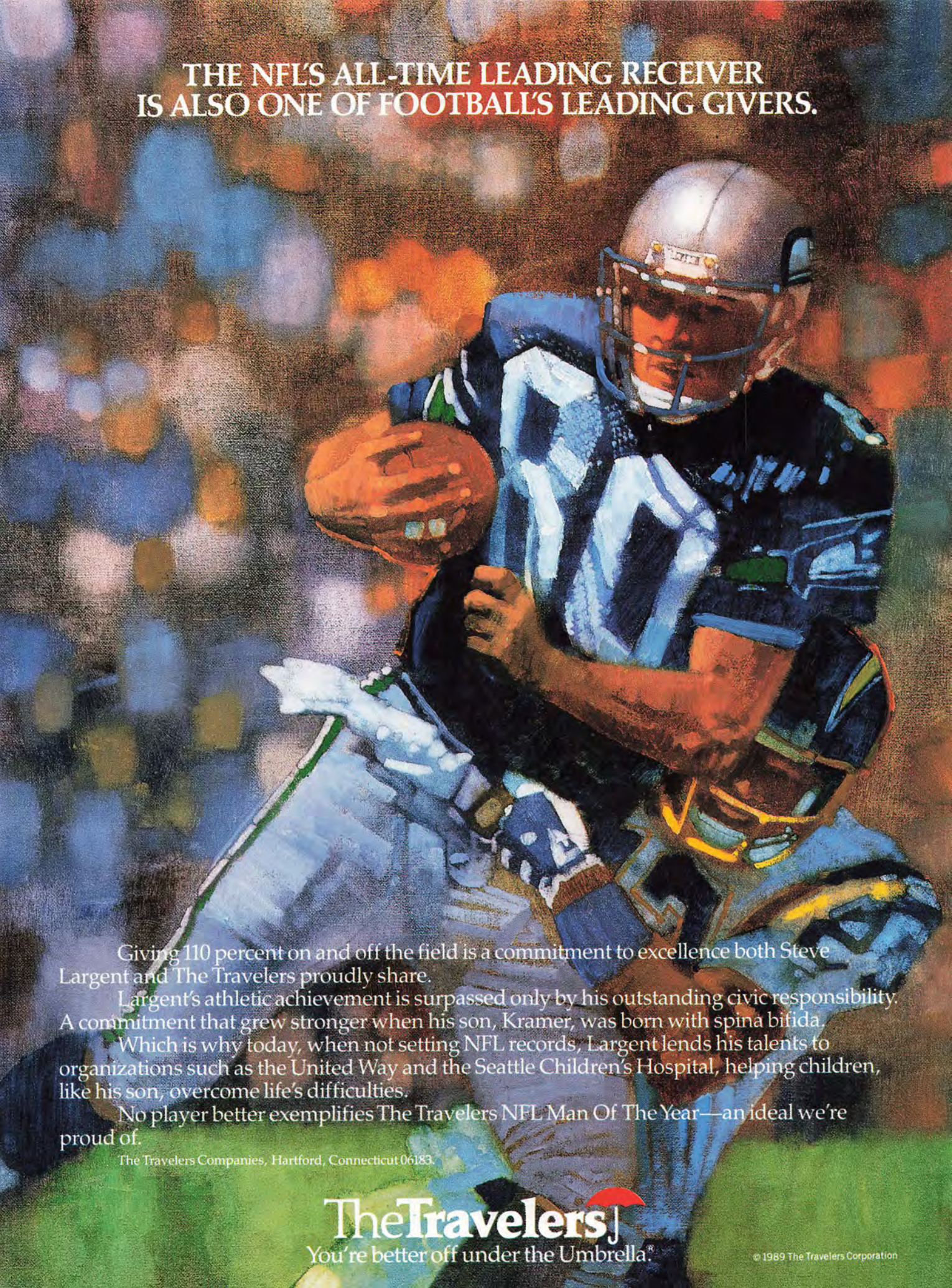
Teams: AFC Champion vs. NFC Champion for the 1989 NFL Championship and the Vince Lombardi Trophy. The AFC Champion will be the home team and has the choice of wearing white or colored jerseys.

Television Coverage: CBS will begin its telecast at 2 P.M. with a pregame show. The game telecast begins at 4 P.M.

Radio Coverage: CBS Radio goes on the air with its Super Bowl broadcast at 3:45 P.M. (CST). After the game, there will be a one-hour wrap-up show in which fans can call in with their comments (1-800-NFL-TALK).

Players' Shares: Each member of the winning team receives $36,000, each member of the losing team $18,000—in excess of $2.6 million for the personnel of the competing clubs.

Sudden Death: If the game is tied at the end of the regulation 60 minutes, it will continue into sudden-death overtime. The team scoring first—by safety, field goal, or touchdown—will win. Unlike preseason or regular-season games, in which a single 15-minute extra period is played, all NFL postseason overtime games continue by 15-minute periods, with two-minute intermissions, until there is a winner.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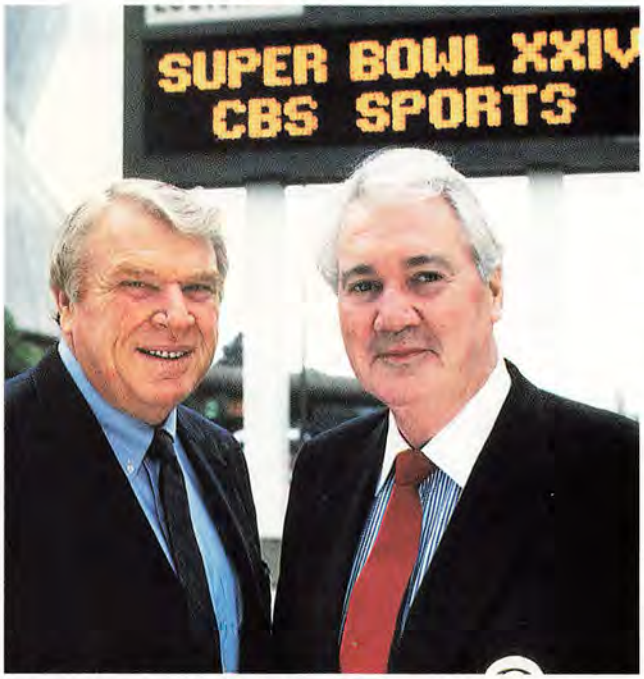
Media

Sacks, Lines, and Videotape

The CBS television coverage of Super Bowl XXIV will require a staff of 90—equal in size to the rosters of the two competing conference champion teams on the Superdome field. The production will feature a champion team in its own right, beginning with John Madden and Pat Summerall, who will provide game analysis and play-by-play, respectively. It will be Summerall's seventh straight Super Bowl call for CBS, and Madden's fourth. Summerall has worked in the CBS booth for each of the 11 Super Bowls the network has broadcast. The executive producer of the game broadcast is Ted Shaker, and he is joined by coordinating producer Charles H. Milton III, producer Bob Stenner (his fifth Super Bowl), and director Sandy Grossman (his sixth). The live broadcast begins at 4 P.M. (CST).

Besides talent and experience, the group will have plenty of hardware to work with, including 14 cameras in and around the stadium and one in the blimp; 10 videotape machines, including two Super Slo-Mos; Chyron and Dubner graphics generators; an on-screen "chalkboard;" and an Abekas still-storage unit for on-screen player photos. Preceding the game broadcast and beginning at 2 P.M. (CST), will be the pregame show, "The Super Bowl Today." The two-hour prelude to the action will be hosted by Brent Musburger, and will be highlighted by the commentary of Dick Butkus, Irv Cross, and Will McDonough. ◆



John Madden* (left), *Pat Summerall front CBS's TV team.

Tony Esparza

Three-Time Winners

Some things don't change. Take, for example, the quality announcing team of Jack Buck and Hank Stram, who will be manning the Super Bowl broadcast booth for CBS Radio for the third consecutive year. Their broadcast of the game begins at 3:45 P.M. (CST). Buck and Stram will be joined by Brent Musburger, who will host the pregame and halftime portions of the broadcast. Buck and Stram also will stay on after the game for "NFL Talk," a live one-hour Super Bowl wrap-up show. Listeners are invited to call in with their postgame comments; dial 1-800-NFL TALK.

On the Friday before the big game, Musburger and Will McDonough will provide up-to-the-minute game information on "NFL Preview," which culminates CBS Radio's 20-part "Road to the Super Bowl" series, which is hosted by John Rooney.

CBS Radio's game coverage will be carried by 315 domestic stations and 400 Armed Forces Radio outlets around the world. The broadcast also celebrates the signing of CBS Radio's new contract with the NFL to provide exclusive network radio coverage of the next five seasons.

CBS Radio's coverage features* (from left) *Jack Buck, Hank Stram, and Brent Musburger.

CBS Radio

Card Stunt

Special Super Bowl XXIV commemorative albums of official NFL Pro Set trading cards will be given to fans entering the Superdome today. Sponsored by GTE, the telecommunications consultant to Super Bowl XXIV, the limited edition albums feature the Pro Set cards of players from both the AFC- and NFC-champion teams. Pro Set cards were introduced prior to the 1989 season. The first trading cards ever produced by the NFL, they were an instant hot item among collectors.

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Warm-Up Rewards

Stan Caplan

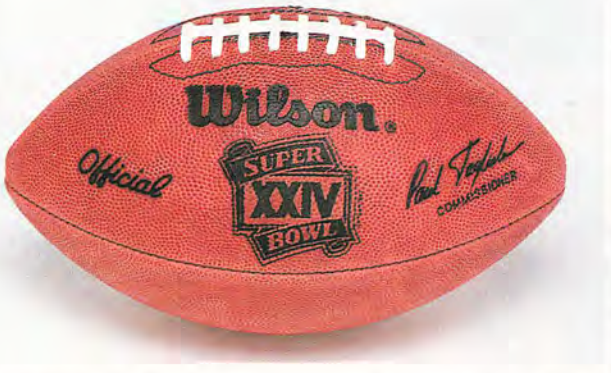
Ultimate Trophy

By now, the scene is familiar. In the winning locker room in the moments immediately following the Super Bowl, the NFL commissioner presents the winning head coach with pro football's symbol of the ultimate team achievement—the Vince Lombardi Trophy.

Commissioner Pete Rozelle had Tiffany and Company create the award, named for the legendary head coach who led the Green Bay Packers to victories in the first two Super Bowls. The Vince Lombardi Trophy is cast in sterling silver, weighs nearly seven pounds, and stands 20¾ inches high.

Designed in 1966 by Oscar Riedener, the trophy was named after Lombardi in late 1970. He had died of cancer in September of that year at age 57.

After the Super Bowl, the trophy—a stylized regulation-sized football atop a tapering, elongated base of three concave sides—is returned to Tiffany for engraving of the competing teams and the final score. The trophy then becomes the permanent possession of the winning team.



Paul Spinelli/NFLP

Tagliabue Ball

Recently elected NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue already has made his mark on the Super Bowl: His signature is on the special commemorative football used in today's game.

The football, which is manufactured by Wilson Sporting Goods Company, features the Super Bowl XXIV logo on one side, and the names of the competing teams, today's date, and the site on the other side. A limited number of the footballs are available at retail outlets in the New Orleans area.

Championship Spoils

Only one of today's competing teams will take home the coveted Vince Lombardi Trophy. But both clubs already have proven to be the best in their respective conferences, which has earned them the Lamar Hunt (AFC) and George Halas (NFC) trophies.

The Hunt Trophy is named after the conference president, AFL founder, and Kansas City Chiefs owner. The Halas Trophy commemorates the legendary man who was one of the original founders of the NFL, and was a player, coach, and owner of the Chicago Bears.

Each trophy is football shaped, with a raised silver frieze depicting game action, and set on a chrome and rosewood base. Each also has the appropriate conference emblem. Designed by Don Weller, the trophies were awarded for the first time following the 1984 season.

Jim Cornfield

The AFC and NFC championship trophies.

Packers — Super Bowl I *Packers — Super Bowl II* *Jets — Super Bowl III* *Chiefs — Super Bowl IV*

Colts — Super Bowl V *Cowboys — Super Bowl VI* *Dolphins — Super Bowl VII* *Dolphins — Super Bowl VIII* *Steelers — Super Bowl IX*

Steelers — Super Bowl X *Raiders — Super Bowl XI* *Cowboys — Super Bowl XII* *Steelers — Super Bowl XIII*

Steelers — Super Bowl XIV *Raiders — Super Bowl XV* *49ers — Super Bowl XVI* *Redskins — Super Bowl XVII* *Raiders — Super Bowl XVIII*

49ers — Super Bowl XIX *Bears — Super Bowl XX* *Giants — Super Bowl XXI* *Redskins — Super Bowl XXII*

Ultimate Jewelry

The Lombardi Trophy symbolizes *team* achievement. But important *individual* efforts also go into the making of a Super Bowl champion. Those individuals—from players to coaches, from trainers and equipment managers to administrative personnel—are rewarded with Super Bowl rings.

The San Francisco 49ers' three NFL titles during the 1980s are symbolized in their Super Bowl XXIII rings. The customized, 10-karat gold and diamond ring features three miniature replicas of the Vince Lombardi Trophy on its horizontal crown. A diamond replaces the football atop each trophy. The center trophy, which represents the 20-16 victory over Cincinnati in Super Bowl XXIII, is the largest, with a diamond set in its base and 24 surrounding diamonds inlaid in a white gold oval. Each corner of the crown also contains a diamond.

The 49ers were presented with their rings at a ceremony last May. Their rings were designed by Josten's of Minneapolis. It was the fifteenth time Josten's had designed and manufactured the rings for a Super Bowl winner. L.G. Balfour has done it four times, Lenox Awards three times, and Tiffany and Company once. The NFL, which has established guidelines for cost of the rings, the type of gold used, and the value of the diamonds, pays for up to 90 rings. ◆

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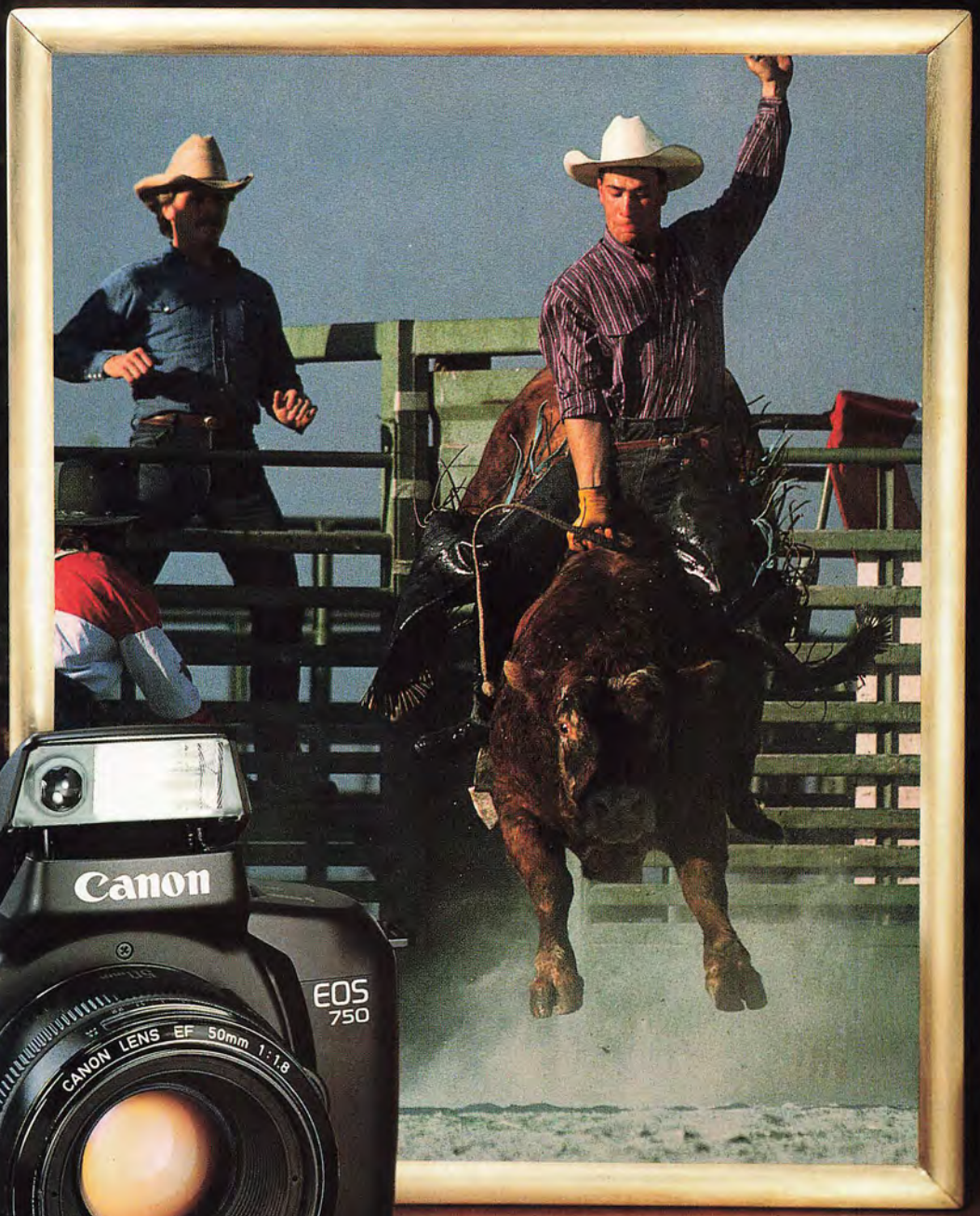

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SUPER XXIV BOWL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 1990
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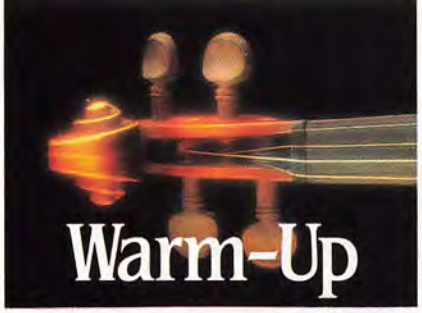


Sidelights

Dateline, New Orleans

THE CRESCENT CITY, WITH a special assist from the Greater New Orleans Tourist and Convention Commission, cooked up a jambalaya of special activities to stoke the Super festivity this year. Following is a partial list of Super Bowl-week events:

Beginning Wednesday night—and concluding this evening—is the Cajun Zydeco Dance Music Fest, a celebration of one of the most popular kinds of folk music in America today. The entertainment at the Maple Leaf Bar in uptown New Orleans included performances by local favorites such as John Delafose & the Eunice Playboys (January 24), the File Cajun Band (Jan. 25), Beausoleil (Jan. 26), Rockin' Dopsie (Jan. 27), and Jong a Moi (Jan. 28).

On Friday between 6 and 7:30 P.M., three New Orleans jazz ensembles staged a free Battle of the Bands at the intersection of Bourbon and Orleans Streets.

Gary Kelley

Folk music and thoroughbreds are just part of the scene.

That musical give-and-take was directly succeeded by a traditional "second line" (in other parts of the country, it's called a parade) down Bourbon Street. Two New Orleans brass bands played and marched, followed by a mass of revelers.

Friday also was the first day of a series of Super Bowl-inspired thoroughbred horse races at the Fair Grounds Race Course. The special events, including the Quarterback Pitch, the Super Bowl Handicap, and races named for the AFC and NFC champions, continue through tomorrow.

And if you heard a terrifying din a few hours ago (noon, to be exact), and couldn't identify the source, chances are it was the Battle of the Fans. Backers of each Super Bowl team packed two classic riverboats—the Creole Queen and the Cajun Queen—and sailed down the Mississippi to determine which one had brought the loudest and most devoted fans to New Orleans.

Putting for Green

MORE AND MORE NFL ATHletes are discovering the inherent advantages of golfing: You never have to play in mud or on Astro-Turf; there are no referees; and players rarely, if ever, take a blindside hit. Maybe that's why the Buick Super Bowl Charity Golf Classic has become so popular—this year's tournament drew more than 250 golfers. The sixth edition of the annual event took place Thursday at the City Park Golf Course in New Orleans, where teams of amateur golfers from across the nation were paired with NFL celebrity captains and members of the Pro Football Writers Association.

Tony Mumpower / Picture Swing

Dan Marino, a 1989 winner.

As usual, the Golf Classic's organizers donated all proceeds to NFL Charities. Since its inception at Super Bowl XIX, the tournament has raised about $350,000.

Al Messerschmidt

Tampa will host its second Super Bowl a year from now.

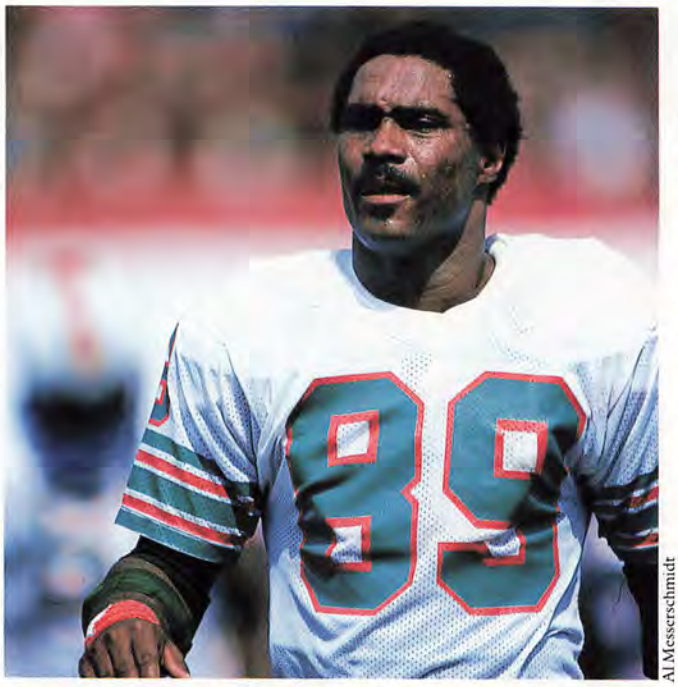
Futures Index

IT WOULD BE A SHAME IF you were forced to miss an upcoming Super Bowl because you had made an appointment to get your dog shampooed, so please jot down this information now: January 27, 1991—Super Bowl XXV at Tampa Stadium, Tampa. January 26, 1992—Super Bowl XXVI at the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome, Minneapolis.

Moore Power to Them

LAST YEAR, NAT MOORE, who caught more passes (510) for more yards (7,547) than any player in Dolphins history, wanted to give something back to the Miami community. So he organized a football clinic before Super Bowl XXIII, which was played at Joe Robbie Stadium. Thirty-five NFL players participated and there were 500 children at the event.

Moore staged an encore clinic at the University of New Orleans last Sunday afternoon. This one, sponsored by Pro Set Trading Cards, drew more than 40 athletes, including Redskins defensive end Charles Mann, Saints linebacker Rickey Jackson, and Cowboys guard Crawford Ker.

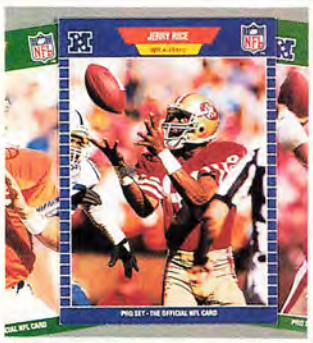


Al Messerschmidt

Former Dolphin Nat Moore is no sideline player.

One thousand children between the ages of 12 and 15 were invited to the clinic. The New Orleans Police Department and local chapters of Big Brothers/Big Sisters nominated 600 kids, while another 400 were selected through a random drawing. In addition to general football instruction, the clinic included a drug education seminar.

"So often, the grass-roots people in a community don't get to take part in the Super Bowl," Moore says. "This was a way to get them involved. It also was a chance to give disadvantaged youngsters a taste of success. Many of these NFL players came from the same background, but they worked their way out. The message is that hard work and dedication can pay off in the end."



Dome Deals

THE UPPER-LEVEL NORTHeast parking lot of the Superdome has been in use since Thursday, and not solely for the amusement of early-bird tailgaters. The lot was the site of Super Bowl Card Show I, a sports trading card and memorabilia show featuring football, baseball, and other sports collectibles.

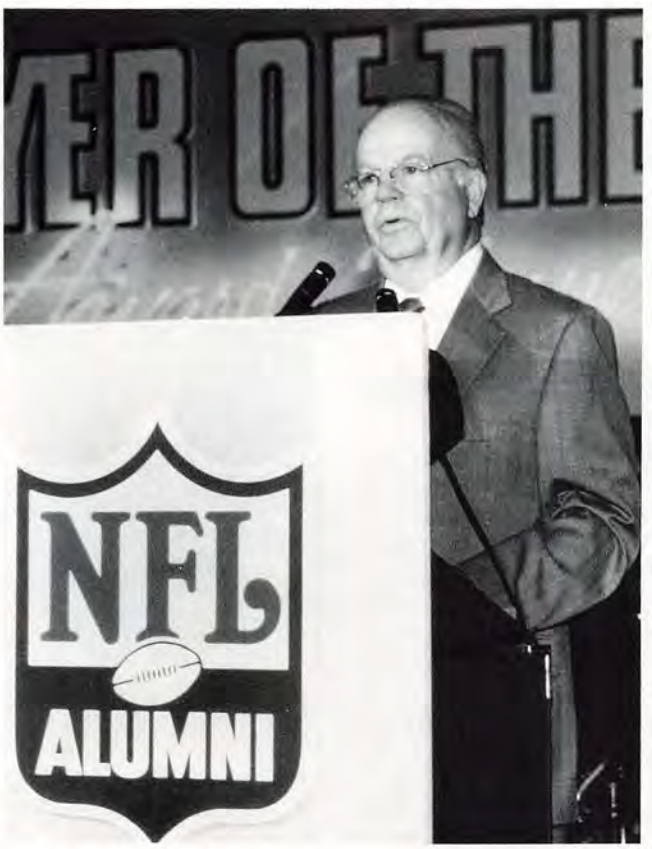
In 1989, the introduction of new football card series, including Pro Set of Dallas, turned up the heat in the trading-card industry. The Super Bowl bartering featured more than 200 dealer tables and corporate exhibitors, as well as free autograph sessions with current and retired stars.

High Grades From the Old School

"THE BEST OF THE PAST honoring the best of the future" —that's how the annual NFL Alumni Player of the Year Awards Dinner is billed. This year's dinner, held Saturday night at the Fairmont Hotel and hosted by veteran sportscaster Ray Scott, honored the 11 NFL players considered the best at their respective positions in 1989, as selected by NFL Alumni members who once played the same positions.

Another traditional segment of the program, the Alumni's Old Hero Award, went to President George Bush and the first lady, Mrs. Barbara Bush. The Old Hero Award honors public figures who merit recognition as outstanding role models for youth.

As usual, the money raised at the $1,000-per-plate affair will be forwarded to worthy causes. This year's proceeds will be split by two non-profit organizations with an emphasis on serving youth—the Covenant House of New Orleans, a shelter for troubled adolescents, and the NFL Alumni itself, which will address the theme of "Caring for Kids." ◆



Ray Scott kept the show rolling at the annual NFL Alumni Player of the Year Awards Dinner.

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Dan Marino

Pro Quarterback

"Take care of the hands that take care of you."

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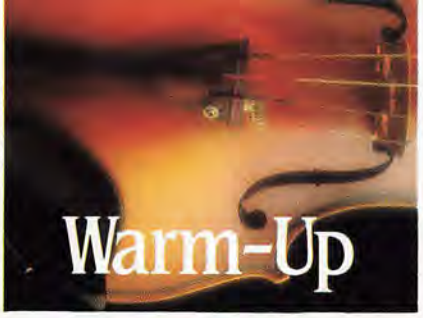

Awards

The MVPs: Jerry Rice

The game-winning touchdown pass in the final minute went to wide receiver John Taylor. But had it not been for some spectacular plays by Jerry Rice, the 49ers never would have been in position to beat the Bengals in Super Bowl XXIII.

After San Francisco and Cincinnati traded a pair of field goals en route to a 6-6 tie late in the third quarter, the Bengals moved in front when Stanford Jennings returned a kickoff 93 yards for a touchdown. It could have been devastating for the 49ers, but they came back to drive 85 yards in just four plays, the final one a 14-yard pass from Joe Montana to Rice. Rice, who also had gotten the drive started with a 31-yard reception, caught the ball crossing over the middle and raced to the corner of the end zone, extending the ball as he dived over the goal line and inside the pylon for a game-tying touchdown.

Later, trailing 16-13 and mounting their final drive, the 49ers faced a crisis. Center Randy Cross had just been flagged for being illegally downfield. Staring at a second-and-20 situation from the Bengals' 45, the 49ers needed a big play. They turned to Rice. The fourth-year wide receiver crossed over the middle again, catching a pass from Montana amid three defenders and gaining 27 yards for a first down to the Cincinnati 18. The 49ers scored two plays later—with 34 seconds left—to win 20-16.

In all, Rice caught 11 passes for a Super Bowl-record 215 yards. Earlier in the week it appeared that Rice might be hampered by a twisted ankle. Instead, he walked off with the Super Bowl most valuable player award.

Merv Corning

Super Bowl Results/MVPs

I Green Bay 35, Kansas City 10
MVP: Bart Starr, QB, Packers
II Green Bay 33, Oakland 14
MVP: Bart Starr, QB, Packers
III New York Jets 16, Baltimore 7
MVP: Joe Namath, QB, Jets
IV Kansas City 23, Minnesota 7
MVP: Len Dawson, QB, Chiefs
V Baltimore 16, Dallas 13
MVP: Chuck Howley, LB, Cowboys
VI Dallas 24, Miami 3
MVP: Roger Staubach, QB, Cowboys
VII Miami 14, Washington 7
MVP: Jake Scott, S, Dolphins
VIII Miami 24, Minnesota 7
MVP: Larry Csonka, RB, Dolphins
IX Pittsburgh 16, Minnesota 6
MVP: Franco Harris, RB, Steelers
X Pittsburgh 21, Dallas 17
MVP: Lynn Swann, WR, Steelers
XI Oakland 32, Minnesota 14
MVP: Fred Biletnikoff, WR, Raiders
XII Dallas 27, Denver 10
Co-MVPs: Harvey Martin, DE, and Randy White, DT, Cowboys
XIII Pittsburgh 35, Dallas 31
MVP: Terry Bradshaw, QB, Steelers
XIV Pittsburgh 31, Los Angeles Rams 19
MVP: Terry Bradshaw, QB, Steelers
XV Oakland 27, Philadelphia 10
MVP: Jim Plunkett, QB, Raiders
XVI San Francisco 26, Cincinnati 21
MVP: Joe Montana, QB, 49ers
XVII Washington 27, Miami 17
MVP: John Riggins, RB, Redskins
XVIII Los Angeles Raiders 38, Washington 9
MVP: Marcus Allen, RB, Raiders
XIX San Francisco 38, Miami 16
MVP: Joe Montana, QB, 49ers
XX Chicago 46, New England 10
MVP: Richard Dent, DE, Bears
XXI New York Giants 39, Denver 20
MVP: Phil Simms, QB, Giants
XXII Washington 42, Denver 10
MVP: Doug Williams, QB, Redskins
XXIII San Francisco 20, Cincinnati 16
MVP: Jerry Rice, WR, 49ers

Honoring the Best

While one member of the competing teams will be rewarded for his excellence in Super Bowl XXIV as the game's MVP, two other NFL players already have earned plaudits for their performances during the season, with the winners scheduled to be announced during the festivities of Super Bowl week.

The Travelers/NFL Man of the Year Award annually honors the league's outstanding "citizen-athlete," a player who has most distinguished himself with both his performance on the field and his dedication to community-service activities off the field. Each NFL team nominates one of its players as a Man of the Year candidate. Travelers presents a check for $25,000 on behalf of the winner to his favorite charity or scholarship program, while also donating $1,000 in the names of each of the other 27 nominees.

This year's winner, quarterback Warren Moon of the Houston Oilers, joins an impressive list of past recipients, including Steve Largent, Lynn Swann, Franco Harris, and Johnny Unitas.

The *Miller Lite Player of the Year* is selected by the fans through ballots that appeared in *USA Today* during the final weeks of the 1989 season. Six finalists were chosen by a media panel from among the 16 national Miller Lite players of the week during the regular season. Each NFL club receives $2,500 to donate to a local charity in the names of the weekly winners. The half dozen finalists receive $5,000 to donate, while the player of the year gets $25,000 for his favorite charity.

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Enriched Flavor,™ low tar. A solution with Merit.

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Forum

We Have Met the Enemy... and, Yeah, It's Us

By Mickey Herskowitz

FROM THE BEGINNING THERE WAS something weird going on with the Super Bowl. In time the problem became clear. It was us: the media. Never have so many complained so loudly about so much pampering.

It is a quirky quality, but one we can't seem to shake. No matter how much we get fed, entertained, and weighed down with souvenirs and press releases, we grump about how shamelessly the Super Bowl is "hyped." We do this with the splendid and innocent detachment of politicians crying out against big government.

More than any event conceived by the mind of man (or woman), the Super Bowl is a writer's game. It is, in fact, a writer's week. We are provided with everything but an opening paragraph and a pillow for a halftime nap. And we reply with endless bellyaching about being manipulated, about being bused to press interviews, about being forced to consume great quantities of Gulf shrimp and lobster claws.

It is time that someone had the class to acknowledge that this is so and say that our conduct has been shabby. Still, we are what we are. The typical sportswriter would complain about the scent of the soap in the restrooms aboard Malcolm Forbes's yacht.

Fishing through an old collection of notes, I ran across this paragraph: "Once the hype is over, once the blimp is in the air, the fans are in their seats and the buildup is over, it will be what a Super Bowl ought to be: a football game."

It no longer matters who wrote the words or in what paper they appeared. I might have written them myself. One way or another, we all have. But after 24 of them (and this year's game makes 23 for me), I ask myself: a football game? That's it? Jeez, what a letdown. With a media army of 2,000 on hand, we at least could stage the invasion of Grenada.

Of course, there *are* no wars the week of the Super Bowl. You can look it up. The generals and the admirals don't have the time. Like everyone else, they are too busy reading about the game, wading through miles of newspaper copy, interviews with players, coaches, wives, hotel clerks, and cab drivers. Writers even interview other writers. We are everywhere, hovering like fruit flies, swarming across the fields and the locker rooms, digging, always digging, for an angle, a quote, a fact, a crumb.

One year Milton Richman of *United Press International* visited a Louisiana leper colony to get their reaction to the Super Bowl in nearby New Orleans. In the category of reaching for a fresh angle, Milt has a special place in our hearts.

Marv Rubin

Of course, it has become one of the great cliches of sports journalism that the drama is not always on the field. The press has done its best to turn the Super Bowl into a self-fulfilling prophecy. Here are a few of our favorite examples:

- There was the night before Super Bowl VIII when a Houston vice squad burst into press headquarters and busted a writers' poker game. They did not exactly throw open the doors with guns drawn and shout "Freeze!," but they achieved pretty much the same effect. No one was booked, but the heroic words of Chicago's Rick Talley still ring as clearly as freedom's bell: "NO ONE MOVES UNTIL WE FINISH THIS HAND."
- Jim Schaaf of the Kansas City Chiefs made it into the Public Relations Hall of Fame with his reaction under fire the night the Len Dawson gambling story broke the week of Super Bowl IV. When two writers arrived early at the Chiefs' official hotel suite, Schaaf asked, "Will there be a lot more writers arriving?"

"I'm afraid there will, Jimmy," said one of the writers.

Schaaf picked up the phone and said, "Hello, room service? Send up five pounds of shrimp remoulade."

- If one scene endures as a symbol of what this event has meant to sports literature, it would have to be Duane Thomas, of Dallas, throwing Super Bowl VI into confusion by the inspired process of saying nothing. A near panic developed one day when Thomas, who was sitting in the practice field bleachers, moved his lips. Writers rushed up, breathlessly, from everywhere. "What happened?" one of them asked.

"He moved his lips," was the answer.

"When they moved, what did they say?"

"They said, 'I don't feel like talking.'"

- Even hardened newsmen were touched when Lou Michaels, the kicker for the Baltimore Colts, talked about facing his brother Walt, then the defensive coach of the Jets in Super Bowl III. He talked about their home in Swoyersville, Pennsylvania, their early life, how they depended on each other. He was crying. He didn't want the writers to leave. Later, Paul Zimmerman, then with the *New York Post*, said to Jimmy Orr, the Colts' receiver: "Gee, did you see the way Lou Michaels was crying during that press interview?"

Orr nodded. "If you were out drinking vodka till 6 A.M.," he said, "and there was a stiff wind blowing across your face, you'd be crying, too."

- The media had a field day when the Tampa City Council passed a resolution "adopting" the Redskins before their date with the Raiders, a team then located somewhere between Oakland and Los Angeles. When the charter flight carrying the Raiders to Super Bowl XVIII landed, a local hostess began apologizing to the players. "It doesn't matter," one of them said. "We're not welcome anywhere."
- When Weeb Ewbank coached the Jets to victory in what has become the most historic of all Super Bowls, he told the press that he often relaxed his team with a dirty joke before the game. When he offered an example, they had to ask the waitresses to leave the room.

Where the Super Bowl is concerned, the media is a sucker for any offbeat yarn. It's the fringe commotion that is our undoing. One year the entertainment included the usual list—golf, tennis, shopping tours, and fashion shows. A late entry was a trip to the local Sea-a-Rama to watch a whale perform.

"That's it," said one veteran writer. "Any sporting event that includes whale watching among its entertainment has lost its sense of proportion." ◆

Insight

They May Not Be Back Yet ...but They're Coming

By Bill McGrane

YOU DON'T GET TO THE Super Bowl in early November, but there's nothing that says your journey can't begin there.

Twice, trying to come from behind at home in the fourth quarter, the young quarterback had been intercepted.

After the second one, the fans let him know of their discomfort.

On the sidelines, the head coach sought his quarterback and got up in his face, so his message would carry above the booing.

"They'll be cheering you before this is done," the coach said.

On their next possession, with less than a minute remaining, the quarterback rolled right on fourth-and-goal from the 14.

He barely avoided a tackler's grasp leaving the pocket, stumbled around a diving linebacker, and sprinted wide to buy time.

The receiver he wanted hadn't cleared, but he was out of options.

The young quarterback threw on the run, back across his body, through a forest of raised arms and flying bodies.

He threw a strike, a blistering fastball through a crack the size of a pie-tin in Chicago's frantic double-coverage of Sterling Sharpe, and his team had won.

Which is a long way of saying Lindy Infante knew what he was talking about when he spoke to Don Majkowski on the sideline.

The Pack's back, and one of these Super Sundays you'll be seeing them for the first time since this game's misty beginnings, back when football's first name was Vince and its second name was Lombardi and they called Green Bay Titletown.

Not today, probably. . .in fact today would be ahead of schedule. . .but they're on the way.

But this isn't so much about the Green Bay Packers as it is about what they are doing.

They're making the purchase.

Don Weller

They're buying the ticket they need in order to get here.

We cycle in this business, maybe inevitably. People are people, even when they're huge and fast and terribly talented. You can only have others tell you you're great so long before you start to believe it. Then you don't worry so much about that hungry guy out there who wants nothing more than to gain acclaim by beating you. To win, in this business, is to invite distraction.

Distraction kills.

Distraction dilutes purpose, which is made up of equal parts concentration, commitment, and fury.

This isn't a pretty game. Croquet is a pretty game. This game is pain and exhaustion and fear and ferocity, and when you feel justified in slipping a Saturday afternoon gig at a shopping center into your schedule, or when you're doing a commercial instead of racking another opponent's tape to study at mid-week, then your commitment is slipping.

But that's what happens after the fact. What happens before it can make the hair stand up on your neck because it's special.

You could call it coming to believe in yourself.

Teams that are struggling are a lot like my golf swing.

At the top of my golf swing, this thought, unbidden, flashes across my mind.

What's going to go wrong this time?

I used to play golf with this guy who got around pretty good. I asked him once what he thought about at the top of his backswing.

He grinned and said, "I think how I'm really going to rip it."

The Green Bay Packers of the Nixon, Ford, Carter, and Reagan administrations. . .like other struggling teams. . .wondered what was going to go wrong, not how they were going to rip it.

Until the chemistry got right.

What's happening at Green Bay? Well, they got Infante, and it looks like a good fit. I've never met the man, but pay attention to him. He's bright, he's resilient, he's disciplined, and he's realistic.

And one thing about football teams, they're like a family. The coach is the father figure, and sooner or later his players are going to reflect his image.

After that big win against the Bears, the Packers went to Detroit and got beat.

They learned a lesson, though: Nothing's guaranteed.

They went to San Francisco the next week, which isn't the most likely place to seek relief.

"Don't make mistakes," Infante counseled his men. "Let's see what happens if you don't make mistakes." What happened was the 49ers made the mistakes and the Packers won.

That game against the Bears—coming from behind to beat a team they're not supposed to beat—was the start, really. And what happened at Detroit was part of the equation, too, because you've got to get your nose bloodied after you think you've arrived in order to find out you've started, but you haven't arrived, not just yet.

Winning at San Francisco, and then beating the Vikings and Buccaneers. . .well, that was change, and from now on, the Packers won't be the same.

How? What happens? One voice. . .everybody sings as one voice. Receivers don't count catches, defenders don't coast when the play is away from them, blockers buy an extra split-second for runners to clear the hole.

Knowing. . .not wondering, not hoping. . .but knowing. It's fun to see it happen.

And if I'm wrong and they're here today?

Well, I still think they're a year, maybe two away, but, what the heck, they call the quarterback "Magic," don't they? ◆

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David Bossy
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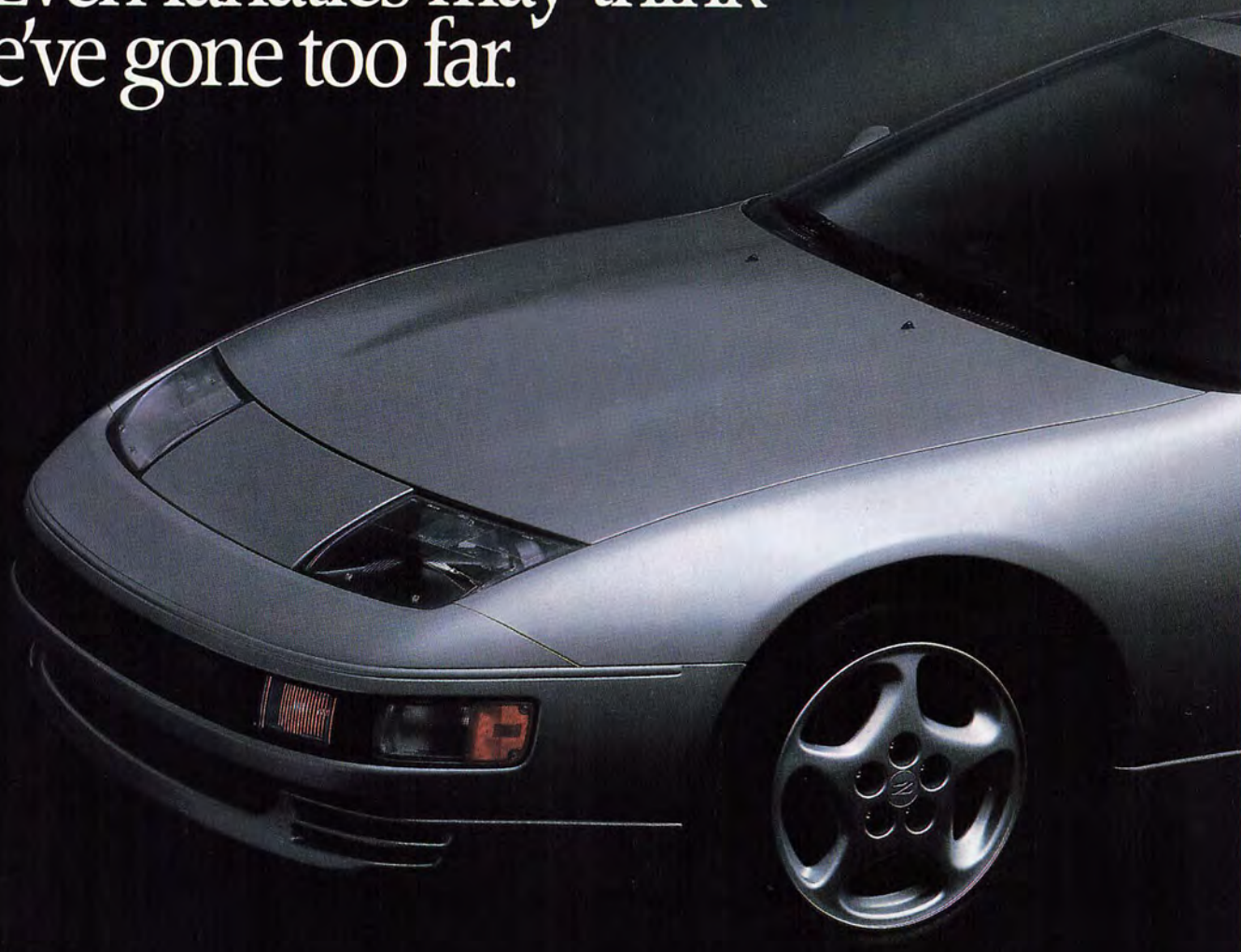
There is not, for example, a pressing need for molybdenum-coated piston skirts, Kelmet connecting rod bearings, platinum-tipped spark plugs, or Inconel steel exhaust valves. (An unusually resilient alloy used in F-15 jet fighter engines.)

No sensible thinking requires a car to have a multi-coil direct ignition. Or an electronically controlled valve-timing system. (To advance or retard intake timing for a broader, flatter torque curve.)

No daily occurrence points up the need for second and third gear double-cone synchronizers. A viscous, limited-slip differential. Or an advanced geometry suspension—multi-link, front and rear. (To offer consistent toe-in behavior while maintaining optimum camber.)

And certainly no routine experience would mandate the need for four-wheel steering—hydraulically-actuated with electronic control. (To retain a natural cornering feel while effectively

Even fanatics may think we've gone too far.



*With manual transmission.

reducing the body slip angle.).

No likely circumstance demands that a car have hollow racing-style camshafts. A continuous process arc-welded chassis, with thermosetting resins. Or body panels made of both aluminum and DURASTEEL.®

Nor would any level-headed reasoning argue the need to run twin turbos. With T-2 low mass turbines. T-25 compressors. And dual intercoolers. (To virtually eliminate lag, expand low-end boost while maintaining high-end performance.)

More than anything else, perhaps, no prudent logic would require a car be designed with Cray® Supercomputers. (Machines extensively used in developing the Space Shuttle, and capable of performing two and a half billion calculations per second.)

In short, no reasonable person in control of their senses would give a 300 horsepower,* 155 mile-per-hour, built-to-the-extreme sports car a moment's thought.

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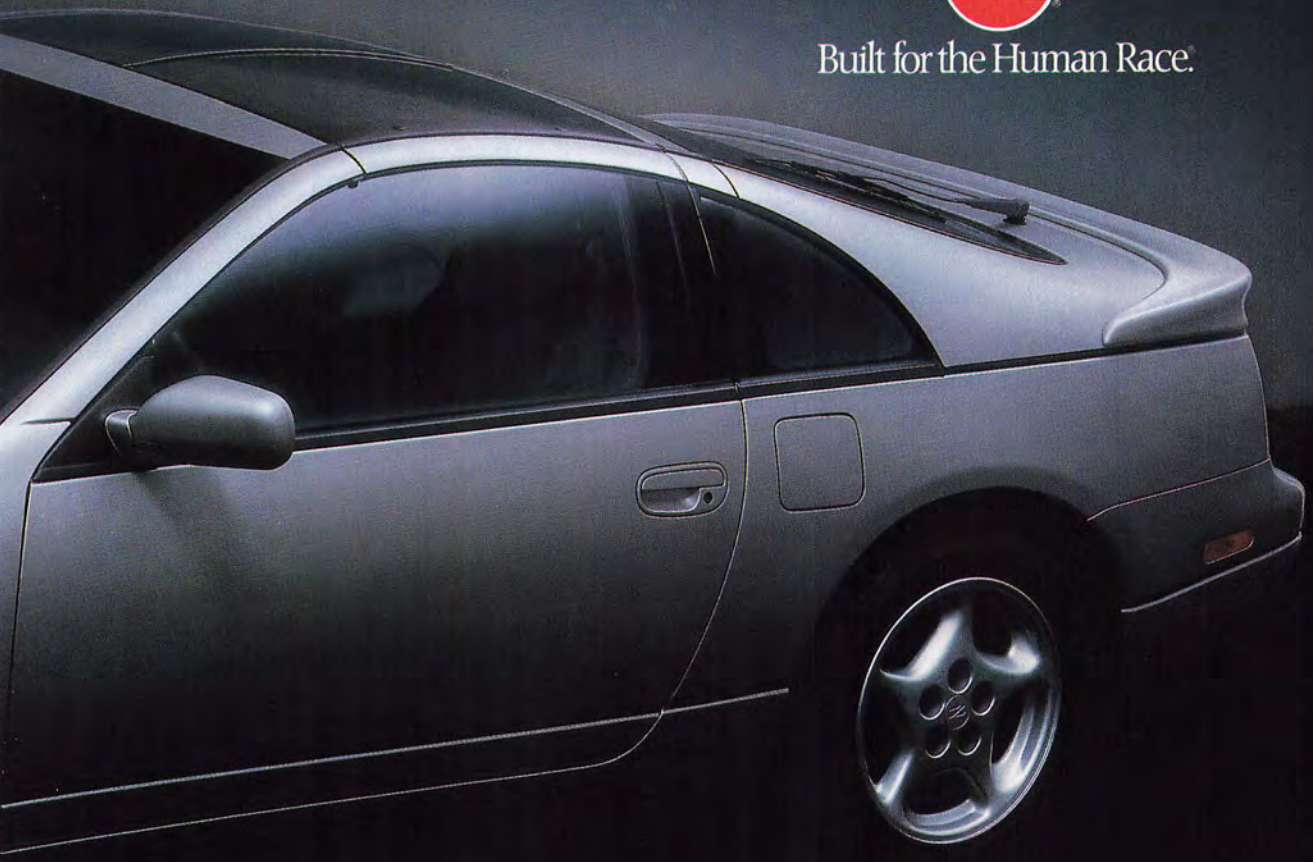

MANUFACTURERS HANOVER

Initiative

What gives these 8 companies a leg up on the competition?

American Airlines

Fortune

Tiffany & Co.

The New York Times

Advil

Avia

Frozfruit

Perrier

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Now in its 13th year, the Corporate Challenge Series is the largest participatory sport of its kind. Starting as a small roadrace in New York's Central Park with 200 runners from 50 companies it has grown into an international series, with 120,000 runners representing over 6,000 companies in 16 cities.

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- 21% professionals, owners of companies, lawyers, engineers, etc.
- 38% are companies with sales over $250 million
- 45% of the Fortune 500 companies enter teams

The Manufacturers Hanover Corporate Challenge, a competitive edge.

Super Bowl Records

Individual Records

Scoring

Most Points, Career
- 24 Franco Harris, Pittsburgh, 4 games (4-td)
- 22 Ray Wersching, San Francisco, 2 games (7-pat, 5-fg)

Most Points, Game
- 18 Roger Craig, San Francisco vs. Miami, 1985 (3-td)
- 15 Don Chandler, Green Bay vs. Oakland, 1968 (3-pat, 4-fg)

Most Touchdowns, Career
- 4 Franco Harris, Pittsburgh, 4 games (4-r)
- 3 John Stallworth, Pittsburgh, 4 games (3-p)
- Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh, 4 games (3-p)
- Cliff Branch, Oakland-L.A. Raiders, 3 games (3-p)
- Roger Craig, San Francisco, 2 games (1-r, 2-p)

Most Touchdowns, Game
- 3 Roger Craig, San Francisco vs. Miami, 1985 (1-r, 2-p)

Most Points After Touchdown, Career
- 8 Don Chandler, Green Bay, 2 games (8 att)
- Roy Gerela, Pittsburgh, 3 games (9 att)
- Chris Bahr, Oakland-L.A. Raiders, 2 games (8 att)
- 7 Ray Wersching, San Francisco, 2 games (7 att)

Most Points After Touchdown, Game
- 6 Ali Haji-Sheikh, Washington vs. Denver, 1988 (6 att)

Most Field Goals Attempted, Career
- 7 Roy Gerela, Pittsburgh, 3 games
- 6 Jim Turner, N.Y. Jets-Denver, 2 games
- Rich Karlis, Denver, 2 games

Most Field Goals Attempted, Game
- 5 Jim Turner, N.Y. Jets vs. Baltimore, 1969
- Efren Herrera, Dallas vs. Denver, 1978

Most Field Goals, Career
- 5 Ray Wersching, San Francisco, 2 games (5 att)
- 4 Don Chandler, Green Bay, 2 games (4 att)
- Jim Turner, N.Y. Jets-Denver, 2 games (6 att)
- Uwe von Schamann, Miami, 2 games (4 att)

Most Field Goals, Game
- 4 Don Chandler, Green Bay vs. Oakland, 1968
- Ray Wersching, San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1982

Longest Field Goal
- 48 Jan Stenerud, Kansas City vs. Minnesota, 1970
- Rich Karlis, Denver vs. N.Y. Giants, 1987
- 47 Jim Turner, Denver vs. Dallas, 1978
- 46 Chris Bahr, Oakland vs. Philadelphia, 1981

Most Safeties, Game
- 1 Dwight White, Pittsburgh vs. Minnesota, 1975
- Reggie Harrison, Pittsburgh vs. Dallas, 1976
- Henry Waechter, Chicago vs. New England, 1986
- George Martin, N.Y. Giants vs. Denver, 1987

Rushing

Most Attempts, Career
- 101 Franco Harris, Pittsburgh, 4 games
- 64 John Riggins, Washington, 2 games
- 57 Larry Csonka, Miami, 3 games

Most Attempts, Game
- 38 John Riggins, Washington vs. Miami, 1983
- 34 Franco Harris, Pittsburgh vs. Minnesota, 1975
- 33 Larry Csonka, Miami vs. Minnesota, 1974

Most Yards Gained, Career
- 354 Franco Harris, Pittsburgh, 4 games
- 297 Larry Csonka, Miami, 3 games
- 230 John Riggins, Washington, 2 games

Most Yards Gained, Game
- 204 Timmy Smith, Washington vs. Denver, 1988
- 191 Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders vs. Washington, 1984
- 166 John Riggins, Washington vs. Miami, 1983

Longest Run From Scrimmage
- 74 Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders vs. Washington, 1984 (TD)
- 58 Tom Matte, Baltimore vs. N.Y. Jets, 1969
- Timmy Smith, Washington vs. Denver, 1988 (TD)

Highest Average Gain, Career (20 attempts)
- 9.6 Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders, 1 game (20-191)
- 9.3 Timmy Smith, Washington, 1 game (22-204)

Highest Average Gain, Game (10 attempts)
- 10.5 Tom Matte, Baltimore vs. N.Y. Jets, 1969 (11-116)
- 9.6 Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders vs. Washington, 1984 (20-191)

Most Touchdowns, Career
- 4 Franco Harris, Pittsburgh, 4 games
- 2 Elijah Pitts, Green Bay, 1 game
- Jim Kiick, Miami, 3 games
- Larry Csonka, Miami, 3 games
- Pete Banaszak, Oakland, 2 games
- Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders, 1 game
- John Riggins, Washington, 2 games
- Jim McMahon, Chicago, 1 game
- Timmy Smith, Washington, 1 game

Most Touchdowns, Game
- 2 Elijah Pitts, Green Bay vs. Kansas City, 1967
- Larry Csonka, Miami vs. Minnesota, 1974
- Pete Banaszak, Oakland vs. Minnesota, 1977
- Franco Harris, Pittsburgh vs. Los Angeles, 1980
- Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders vs. Washington, 1984
- Jim McMahon, Chicago vs. New England, 1986
- Timmy Smith, Washington vs. Denver, 1988

Joe Montana passed for a record 357 yards in Super Bowl XXIII.

David Boss

Service

Most Games
- 5 Marv Fleming, Green Bay, 1967-68; Miami, 1972-74
- Larry Cole, Dallas, 1971-72, 1976, 1978-79
- Cliff Harris, Dallas, 1971-72, 1976, 1978-79
- D.D. Lewis, Dallas, 1971-72, 1976, 1978-79
- Preston Pearson, Baltimore, 1969; Pittsburgh, 1975; Dallas, 1976, 1978-79
- Charlie Waters, Dallas, 1971-72, 1976, 1978-79
- Rayfield Wright, Dallas, 1971-72, 1976, 1978-79

Most Games, Coach
- 6 Don Shula, Baltimore, 1969; Miami, 1972-74, 1983, 1985
- 5 Tom Landry, Dallas, 1971-72, 1976, 1978-79

Most Games, Winning Team, Coach
- 4 Chuck Noll, Pittsburgh, 1975-76, 1979-80
- 3 Bill Walsh, San Francisco, 1982, 1985, 1989

Most Games, Losing Team, Coach
- 4 Bud Grant, Minnesota, 1970, 1974-75, 1977
- Don Shula, Baltimore, 1969; Miami, 1972, 1983, 1985
- 3 Tom Landry, Dallas, 1971, 1976, 1979

Passing

Most Passes Attempted, Career
- 98 Roger Staubach, Dallas, 4 games
- 93 Joe Montana, San Francisco, 3 games
- 89 Fran Tarkenton, Minnesota, 3 games

Most Passes Attempted, Game
- 50 Dan Marino, Miami vs. San Francisco, 1985
- 38 Ron Jaworski, Philadelphia vs. Oakland, 1981
- John Elway, Denver vs. Washington, 1988

Most Passes Completed, Career
- 61 Roger Staubach, Dallas, 4 games
- Joe Montana, San Francisco, 3 games
- 49 Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh, 4 games
- 46 Fran Tarkenton, Minnesota, 3 games

Most Passes Completed, Game
- 29 Dan Marino, Miami vs. San Francisco, 1985
- 25 Ken Anderson, Cincinnati vs. San Francisco, 1982
- 24 Joe Montana, San Francisco vs. Miami, 1985

Most Consecutive Completions, Game
- 10 Phil Simms, N.Y. Giants vs. Denver, 1987
- 8 Len Dawson, Kansas City vs. Green Bay, 1967
- Joe Theismann, Washington vs. Miami, 1983

Highest Completion Percentage, Career (40 attempts)
- 65.6 Joe Montana, San Francisco, 3 games (93-61)
- 63.6 Len Dawson, Kansas City, 2 games (44-28)
- 63.4 Bob Griese, Miami, 3 games (41-26)

Highest Completion Percentage, Game (20 attempts)
- 88.0 Phil Simms, N.Y. Giants vs. Denver, 1987 (25-22)
- 73.5 Ken Anderson, Cincinnati vs. San Francisco, 1982 (34-25)
- 69.6 Bart Starr, Green Bay vs. Kansas City, 1967 (23-16)

Most Yards Gained, Career
- 932 Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh, 4 games
- 845 Joe Montana, San Francisco, 3 games
- 734 Roger Staubach, Dallas, 4 games

Most Yards Gained, Game
- 357 Joe Montana, San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1989
- 340 Doug Williams, Washington vs. Denver, 1988
- 331 Joe Montana, San Francisco vs. Miami, 1985

Longest Pass Completion
- 80 Jim Plunkett (to King), Oakland vs. Philadelphia, 1981 (TD)
- Doug Williams (to Sanders), Washington vs. Denver, 1988 (TD)
- 76 David Woodley (to Cefalo), Miami vs. Washington, 1983 (TD)
- 75 Johnny Unitas (to Mackey), Baltimore vs. Dallas, 1971 (TD)
- Terry Bradshaw (to Stallworth), Pittsburgh vs. Dallas, 1979 (TD)

Highest Average Gain, Career (40 attempts)
- 11.10 Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh, 4 games (84-932)
- 9.62 Bart Starr, Green Bay, 2 games (47-452)
- 9.41 Jim Plunkett, Oakland-L.A. Raiders, 2 games (46-433)

Highest Average Gain, Game (20 attempts)
- 14.71 Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh vs. Los Angeles, 1980 (21-309)
- 12.80 Jim McMahon, Chicago vs. New England, 1986 (20-256)
- 12.43 Jim Plunkett, Oakland vs. Philadelphia, 1981 (21-261)

Most Touchdown Passes, Career
- 9 Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh, 4 games
- 8 Roger Staubach, Dallas, 4 games
- 6 Joe Montana, San Francisco, 3 games

Most Touchdown Passes, Game
- 4 Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh vs. Dallas, 1979
- Doug Williams, Washington vs. Denver, 1988
- 3 Roger Staubach, Dallas vs. Pittsburgh, 1979
- Jim Plunkett, Oakland vs. Philadelphia, 1981
- Joe Montana, San Francisco vs. Miami, 1985
- Phil Simms, N.Y. Giants vs. Denver, 1987

Lowest Percentage, Passes Had Intercepted, Career (40 attempts)
- 0.00 Jim Plunkett, Oakland-L.A. Raiders, 2 games (46-0)
- Joe Montana, San Francisco, 3 games (93-0)
- 2.13 Bart Starr, Green Bay, 2 games (47-1)

Super Bowl Records

Heinz Kluftmeier / Sports Illustrated

Lynn Swann caught 16 career passes.

Most Attempts, Without Interception, Game
- 36 Joe Montana, San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1989
- 35 Joe Montana, San Francisco vs. Miami, 1985

Most Passes Had Intercepted, Career
- 7 Craig Morton, Dallas-Denver, 2 games
- 6 Fran Tarkenton, Minnesota, 3 games

Most Passes Had Intercepted, Game
- 4 Craig Morton, Denver vs. Dallas, 1978

Pass Receiving

Most Receptions, Career
- 16 Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh, 4 games
- 15 Chuck Foreman, Minnesota, 3 games
  Roger Craig, San Francisco, 2 games
- 14 Cliff Branch, Oakland-L.A. Raiders, 3 games

Most Receptions, Game
- 11 Dan Ross, Cincinnati vs. San Francisco, 1982
  Jerry Rice, San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1989
- 10 Tony Nathan, Miami vs. San Francisco, 1985
- 9 Ricky Sanders, Washington vs. Denver, 1988

Most Yards Gained, Career
- 364 Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh, 4 games
- 268 John Stallworth, Pittsburgh, 4 games
- 215 Jerry Rice, San Francisco, 1 game

Most Yards Gained, Game
- 215 Jerry Rice, San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1989
- 193 Ricky Sanders, Washington vs. Denver, 1988
- 161 Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh vs. Dallas, 1976

Longest Reception
- 80 Kenny King (from Plunkett), Oakland vs. Philadelphia, 1981 (TD)
  Ricky Sanders (from Williams), Washington vs. Denver, 1988 (TD)
- 76 Jimmy Cefalo (from Woodley), Miami vs. Washington, 1983 (TD)
- 75 John Mackey (from Unitas), Baltimore vs. Dallas, 1971 (TD)
  John Stallworth (from Bradshaw), Pittsburgh vs. Dallas, 1979 (TD)

Highest Average Gain, Career (8 receptions)
- 24.4 John Stallworth, Pittsburgh, 4 games (11-268)
- 22.8 Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh, 4 games (16-364)
- 21.4 Ricky Sanders, Washington, 1 game (9-193)

Highest Average Gain, Game (3 receptions)
- 40.33 John Stallworth, Pittsburgh vs. Los Angeles, 1980 (3-121)
- 40.25 Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh vs. Dallas, 1979 (4-161)
- 38.33 John Stallworth, Pittsburgh vs. Dallas, 1979 (3-115)

Most Touchdowns, Career
- 3 John Stallworth, Pittsburgh, 4 games
  Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh, 4 games
  Cliff Branch, Oakland-L.A. Raiders, 3 games

Most Touchdowns, Game
- 2 Max McGee, Green Bay vs. Kansas City, 1967
  Bill Miller, Oakland vs. Green Bay, 1968
  John Stallworth, Pittsburgh vs. Dallas, 1979
  Cliff Branch, Oakland vs. Philadelphia, 1981
  Dan Ross, Cincinnati vs. San Francisco, 1982
  Roger Craig, San Francisco vs. Miami, 1985
  Ricky Sanders, Washington vs. Denver, 1988

Interceptions By

Most Interceptions By, Career
- 3 Chuck Howley, Dallas, 2 games
  Rod Martin, Oakland-L.A. Raiders, 2 games

Most Interceptions By, Game
- 3 Rod Martin, Oakland vs. Philadelphia, 1981

Most Yards Gained, Career
- 75 Willie Brown, Oakland, 2 games
- 63 Chuck Howley, Dallas, 2 games
  Jake Scott, Miami, 3 games

Most Yards Gained, Game
- 75 Willie Brown, Oakland vs. Minnesota, 1977
- 63 Jake Scott, Miami vs. Washington, 1973
- 60 Herb Adderley, Green Bay vs. Oakland, 1968

Longest Return
- 75 Willie Brown, Oakland vs. Minnesota, 1977 (TD)
- 60 Herb Adderley, Green Bay vs. Oakland, 1968 (TD)
- 55 Jake Scott, Miami vs. Washington, 1973

Most Touchdowns, Game
- 1 Herb Adderley, Green Bay vs. Oakland, 1968
  Willie Brown, Oakland vs. Minnesota, 1977
  Jack Squirek, L.A. Raiders vs. Washington, 1984
  Reggie Phillips, Chicago vs. New England, 1986

Punting

Most Punts, Career
- 17 Mike Eischeid, Oakland-Minnesota, 3 games
- 15 Larry Seiple, Miami, 3 games

Most Punts, Game
- 9 Ron Widby, Dallas vs. Baltimore, 1971
- 7 By eight players

Longest Punt
- 63 Lee Johnson, Cincinnati vs. San Francisco, 1989
- 62 Rich Camarillo, New England vs. Chicago, 1986

Highest Average, Punting, Career (10 punts)
- 46.5 Jerrel Wilson, Kansas City, 2 games (11-511)

Highest Average, Punting, Game (4 punts)
- 48.5 Jerrel Wilson, Kansas City vs. Minnesota, 1970 (4-194)

Punt Returns

Most Punt Returns, Career
- 6 Willie Wood, Green Bay, 2 games
  Jake Scott, Miami, 3 games
  Theo Bell, Pittsburgh, 2 games
  Mike Nelms, Washington, 1 game

Most Punt Returns, Game
- 6 Mike Nelms, Washington vs. Miami, 1983
- 5 Willie Wood, Green Bay vs. Oakland, 1968
  Dana McLemore, San Francisco vs. Miami, 1985

Most Fair Catches, Game
- 3 Ron Gardin, Baltimore vs. Dallas, 1971
  Golden Richards, Dallas vs. Pittsburgh, 1976
  Greg Pruitt, L.A. Raiders vs. Washington, 1984

Most Yards Gained, Career
- 56 John Taylor, San Francisco, 1 game
- 52 Mike Nelms, Washington, 1 game

Most Yards Gained, Game
- 56 John Taylor, San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1989
- 52 Mike Nelms, Washington vs. Miami, 1983

Longest Return
- 45 John Taylor, San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1989
- 34 Darrell Green, Washington vs. L.A. Raiders, 1984

Highest Average, Career (4 returns)
- 10.8 Neal Colzie, Oakland, 1 game (4-43)

Highest Average, Game (3 returns)
- 18.7 John Taylor, San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1989 (3-56)

Kickoff Returns

Most Kickoff Returns, Career
- 8 Larry Anderson, Pittsburgh, 2 games
  Fulton Walker, Miami, 2 games
  Ken Bell, Denver, 2 games

Fulton Walker ran a kickoff 98 yards.

Most Kickoff Returns, Game
- 7 Stephen Starring, New England vs. Chicago, 1986

Most Yards Gained, Career
- 283 Fulton Walker, Miami, 2 games
- 207 Larry Anderson, Pittsburgh, 2 games

Most Yards Gained, Game
- 190 Fulton Walker, Miami vs. Washington, 1983
- 162 Larry Anderson, Pittsburgh vs. Los Angeles, 1980

Longest Return
- 98 Fulton Walker, Miami vs. Washington, 1983 (TD)
- 93 Stanford Jennings, Cincinnati vs. San Francisco, 1989 (TD)

Highest Average, Career (4 returns)
- 35.4 Fulton Walker, Miami, 2 games (8-283)

Highest Average, Game (3 returns)
- 47.5 Fulton Walker, Miami vs. Washington, 1983 (4-190)

Most Touchdowns, Game
- 1 Fulton Walker, Miami vs. Washington, 1983
  Stanford Jennings, Cincinnati vs. San Francisco, 1989

Fumbles

Most Fumbles, Career
- 5 Roger Staubach, Dallas, 4 games

Most Fumbles, Game
- 3 Roger Staubach, Dallas vs. Pittsburgh, 1976

Most Fumbles Recovered, Career
- 2 Jake Scott, Miami, 3 games (1 own, 1 opp)
  Fran Tarkenton, Minnesota, 3 games (2 own)
  Franco Harris, Pittsburgh, 4 games (2 own)
  Roger Staubach, Dallas, 4 games (2 own)
  Bobby Walden, Pittsburgh, 2 games (2 own)
  John Fitzgerald, Dallas, 4 games (2 own)
  Randy Hughes, Dallas, 3 games (2 opp)
  Butch Johnson, Dallas, 2 games (2 own)
  Mike Singletary, Chicago, 1 game (2 opp)

Most Fumbles Recovered, Game
- 2 Jake Scott, Miami vs. Minnesota, 1974 (1 own, 1 opp)
  Roger Staubach, Dallas vs. Pittsburgh, 1976 (2 own)
  Randy Hughes, Dallas vs. Denver, 1978 (2 opp)
  Butch Johnson, Dallas vs. Denver, 1978 (2 own)
  Mike Singletary, Chicago vs. New England, 1986 (2 opp)

Sylvia Allen

Franco Harris: 468 combined net yards.

Combined Net Yards Gained

Most Attempts, Career
- 108 Franco Harris, Pittsburgh, 4 games

Most Attempts, Game
- 39 John Riggins, Washington vs. Miami, 1983

Most Yards Gained, Career
- 468 Franco Harris, Pittsburgh, 4 games

Most Yards Gained, Game
- 239 Ricky Sanders, Washington vs. Denver, 1988

Sacks

Sacks have been compiled since 1983.

Most Sacks, Game
- 2 Dwaine Board, San Francisco vs. Miami, 1985
  Dennis Owens, New England vs. Chicago, 1986
  Otis Wilson, Chicago vs. New England, 1986
  Leonard Marshall, N.Y. Giants vs. Denver, 1987
  Alvin Walton, Washington vs. Denver, 1988
  Charles Haley, San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1989

Team Records
Games, Victories, Defeats

Most Games
- 5 Dallas, 1971-72, 1976, 1978-79
  Miami, 1972-74, 1983, 1985

Al Messerschmidt

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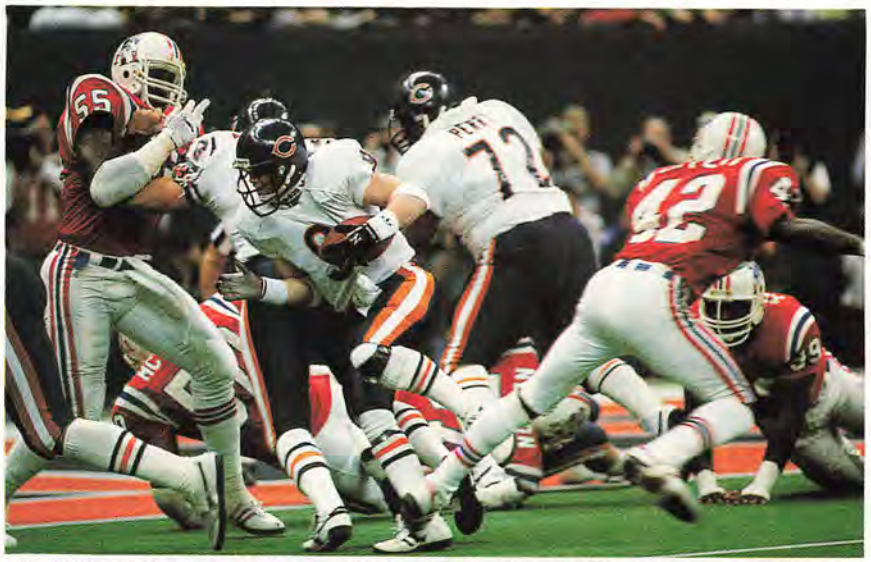

Malcolm Emmons

The Chicago Bears scored a record 46 points against the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XX.

Most Consecutive Games
3 Miami, 1972-74
Most Games Won
4 Pittsburgh, 1975-76, 1979-80
Most Consecutive Games Won
2 Green Bay, 1967-68
Miami, 1973-74
Pittsburgh, 1975-76, 1979-80
Most Games Lost
4 Minnesota, 1970, 1974-75, 1977
Most Consecutive Games Lost
2 Minnesota, 1974-75
Denver, 1987-88

Scoring

Most Points, Game
46 Chicago vs. New England, 1986
Fewest Points, Game
3 Miami vs. Dallas, 1972
Most Points, Both Teams, Game
66 Pittsburgh (35) vs. Dallas (31), 1979
Fewest Points, Both Teams, Game
21 Washington (7) vs. Miami (14), 1973
Largest Margin of Victory, Game
36 Chicago vs. New England, 1986 (46-10)
Most Touchdowns, Game
6 Washington vs. Denver, 1988
Fewest Touchdowns, Game
0 Miami vs. Dallas, 1972
Most Touchdowns, Both Teams, Game
9 Pittsburgh (5) vs. Dallas (4), 1979
Fewest Touchdowns, Both Teams, Game
2 Baltimore (1) vs. N.Y. Jets (1), 1969
Most Points After Touchdown, Game
6 Washington vs. Denver, 1988
Most Points After Touchdown, Both Teams, Game
9 Pittsburgh (5) vs. Dallas (4), 1979
Fewest Points After Touchdown, Both Teams, Game
2 Baltimore (1) vs. N.Y. Jets (1), 1969
Baltimore (1) vs. Dallas (1), 1971
Minnesota (0) vs. Pittsburgh (2), 1975
Most Field Goals Attempted, Game
5 N.Y. Jets vs. Baltimore, 1969
Dallas vs. Denver, 1978
Most Field Goals Attempted, Both Teams, Game
7 N.Y. Jets (5) vs. Baltimore (2), 1969
San Francisco (4) vs. Cincinnati (3), 1989
Fewest Field Goals Attempted, Both Teams, Game
1 Minnesota (0) vs. Miami (1), 1974
Most Field Goals, Game
4 Green Bay vs. Oakland, 1968
San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1982
Most Field Goals, Both Teams, Game
5 Cincinnati (3) vs. San Francisco (2), 1989
Fewest Field Goals, Both Teams, Game
0 Miami vs. Washington, 1973
Pittsburgh vs. Minnesota, 1975

Net Yards Gained Rushing and Passing

Most Yards Gained, Game
602 Washington vs. Denver, 1988
Fewest Yards Gained, Game
119 Minnesota vs. Pittsburgh, 1975
Most Yards Gained, Both Teams, Game
929 Washington (602) vs. Denver (327), 1988
Fewest Yards Gained, Both Teams, Game
452 Minnesota (119) vs. Pittsburgh (333), 1975

Rushing

Most Attempts, Game
57 Pittsburgh vs. Minnesota, 1975
Fewest Attempts, Game
9 Miami vs. San Francisco, 1985
Most Attempts, Both Teams, Game
81 Washington (52) vs. Miami (29), 1983
Fewest Attempts, Both Teams, Game
49 Miami (9) vs. San Francisco (40), 1985
Most Yards Gained, Game
280 Washington vs. Denver, 1988
Fewest Yards Gained, Game
7 New England vs. Chicago, 1986
Most Yards Gained, Both Teams, Game
377 Washington (280) vs. Denver (97), 1988
Fewest Yards Gained, Both Teams, Game
171 Baltimore (69) vs. Dallas (102), 1971
Most Touchdowns, Game
4 Chicago vs. New England, 1986
Most Touchdowns, Both Teams, Game
4 Miami (3) vs. Minnesota (1), 1974
Chicago (4) vs. New England (0), 1986

Passing

Most Passes Attempted, Game
50 Miami vs. San Francisco, 1985
Fewest Passes Attempted, Game
7 Miami vs. Minnesota, 1974
Most Passes Attempted, Both Teams, Game
85 Miami (50) vs. San Francisco (35), 1985
Fewest Passes Attempted, Both Teams, Game
35 Miami (7) vs. Minnesota (28), 1974
Most Passes Completed, Game
29 Miami vs. San Francisco, 1985
Fewest Passes Completed, Game
4 Miami vs. Washington, 1983
Most Passes Completed, Both Teams, Game
53 Miami (29) vs. San Francisco (24), 1985
Fewest Passes Completed, Both Teams, Game
19 Miami (4) vs. Washington (15), 1983
Most Yards Gained, Game
339 San Francisco vs. Cincinnati, 1989
Fewest Yards Gained, Game
35 Denver vs. Dallas, 1978
Most Yards Gained, Both Teams, Game
615 San Francisco (326) vs. Miami (289), 1985
Fewest Yards Gained, Both Teams, Game
156 Miami (69) vs. Washington (87), 1973 ◆

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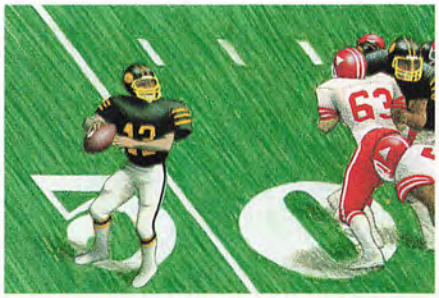

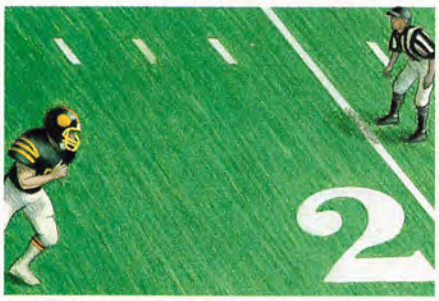

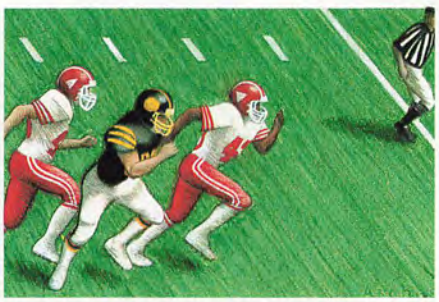

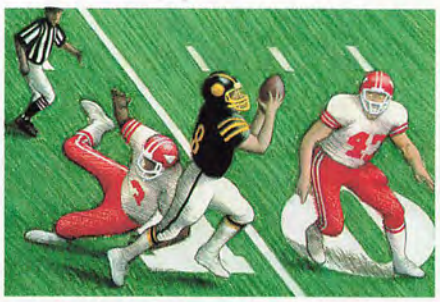

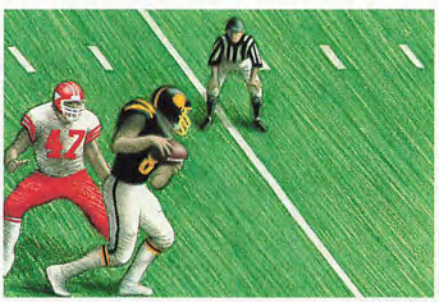

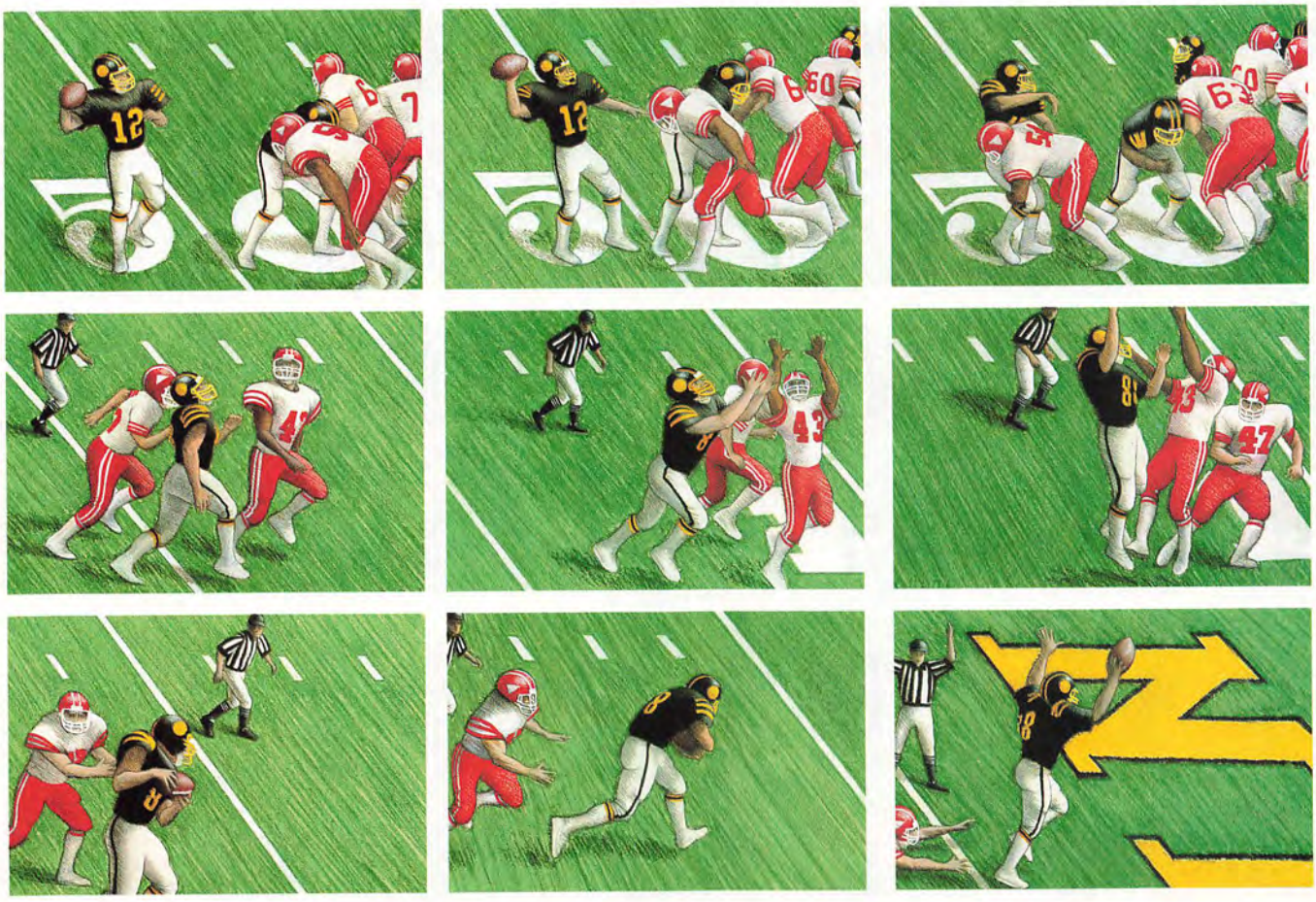

AT&T
The right choice.

Officials' Signals

Touchdown, Field Goal, or Successful Try

Safety

Time Out

Dead Ball or Neutral Zone Established, Crowd Noise

First Down

Personal Foul

Ball Illegally Touched, Kicked, or Batted

Delay of Game, Illegal Substitution, or Excess Time Out

No Time Out or Time in With Whistle

Offside or Encroaching

Holding

Penalty Refused, Incomplete Pass, Play Over, or Missed Field Goal

Ineligible Receiver or Ineligible Member of Kicking Team Downfield

Illegal Motion at Snap

Crawling, Interlocking Interference, Pushing, or Helping Runner

Unsportsmanlike Conduct Chop Blocks

Tripping

Illegal Crackback

Illegal Cut or Blocking Below the Waist

Intentional Grounding of Pass

Touching a Forward Pass or Scrimmage Kick

Player Disqualified

Illegal Contact

False Start, Illegal Shift Procedure, or Formation

Illegal Use of Hands, Arms, or Body

Pass Juggled Inbounds, Caught Out of Bounds

Illegal Forward Pass

Loss of Down

Invalid Fair Catch Signal

Uncatchable Forward Pass

Interference With Forward Pass or Fair Catch

Introducing Corrado.

It's a quick cure for the common sports car.

Suffering from the sports car blues? You can't shake the feeling that you should be driving a serious sports car—a *European* sports car—then you wake up to the dizzying reality of European sports car prices?

Well here's something that's going to make you feel good all over.

The 1990 Volkswagen Corrado.

Corrado's numbers are impressive—0 to 60 in 7.5 seconds and a top track speed of 140 mph.* Equally impressive are the characteristics numbers can't describe—a handling and feel that are unmistakably European.

Corrado comes with a long list of standard features. Including a supercharged, intercooled, G60 engine. Four-wheel independent suspension and 4-wheel disc brakes. A rear deck spoiler that automatically rises at speeds over 45 mph. Two-plus-two seating for four with a large rear storage area. And a sleek, aero shape, handcrafted at the famed Karmann Coachworks.

All for the surprisingly attractive price of $17,900.**

The new Volkswagen Corrado. Finally there's a serious European sports car that's also an affordable European sports car. Treat yourself to a test drive today.

*On test track with professional driver. Always observe local speed and traffic regulations. **M.S.R.P. does not include options, tax, registration, destination charges or dealer prep.

It's time to think about Volkswagen again.

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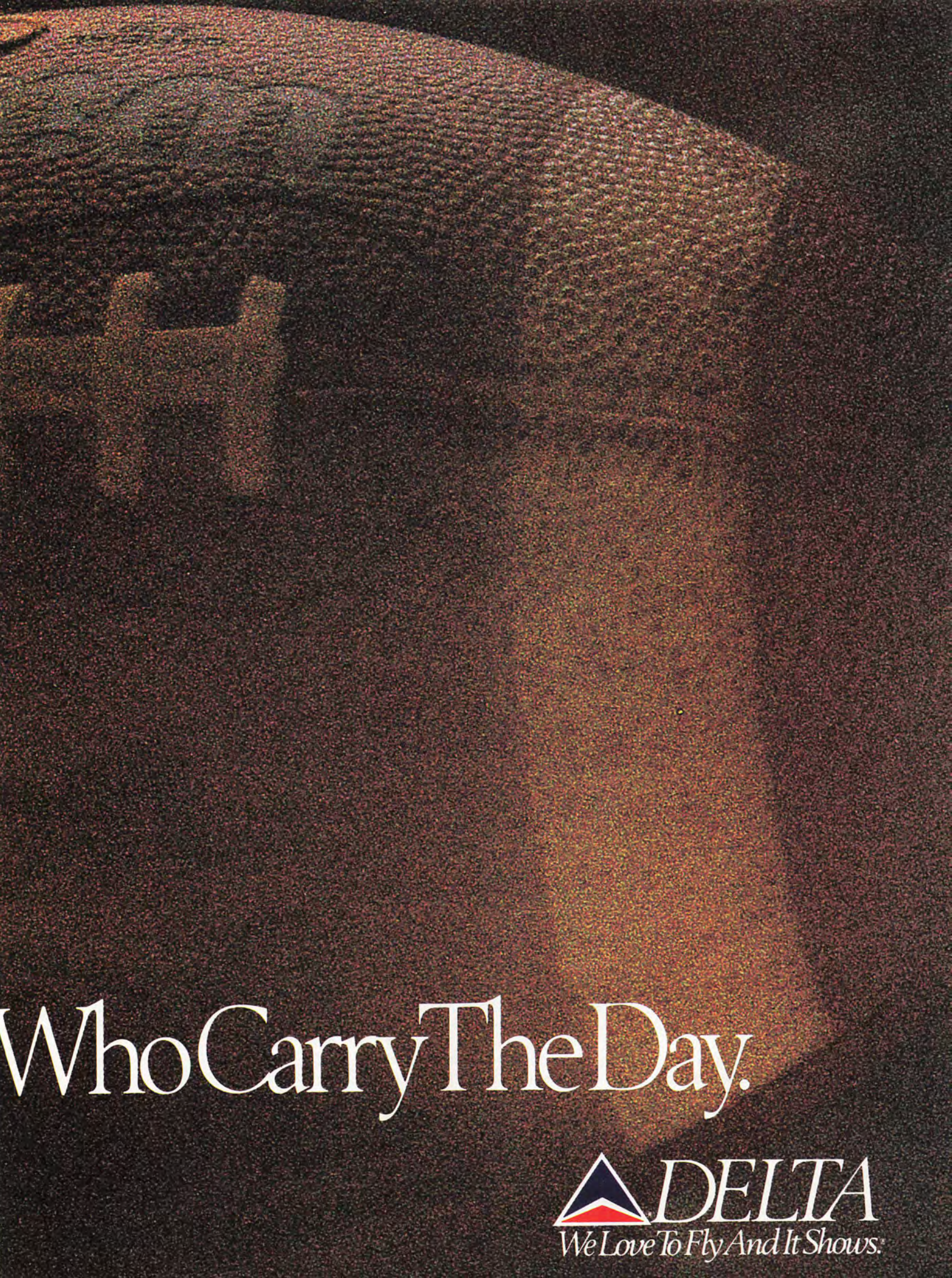
Who Carry The Day.
DELTA
We Love To Fly And It Shows.

We have a way of bringing people closer together.

The organizers of a major national sports competition had a slight coordination problem. How to link 34 different events, spread out over 6 cities. Not to mention how to go about connecting TV crews to their networks. Technicians to their equipment. And the public to all kinds of important information.

So they talked to us. And we wrestled with a few ideas. Then developed the most far-reaching communications system of its kind.

How? With intricate teamwork. And carefully planned coordination.

We sought out the best equipment and services. Then synchronized advanced technologies, computer systems and telephone companies into a smooth running voice and data network.

Perhaps our greatest compliment was that hardly anyone realized we were there. Which is fine with us. Because we feel it's always better to be heard and not seen. You see at GTE, it's not just communications we offer, it's solutions. Call us. For any event. 1-800-225-5483.

GTE

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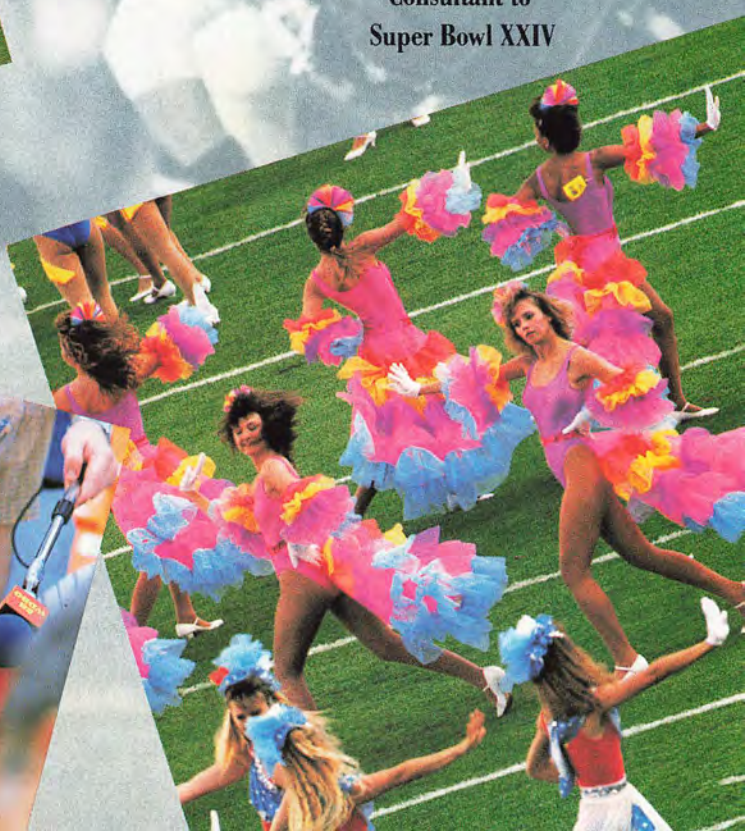
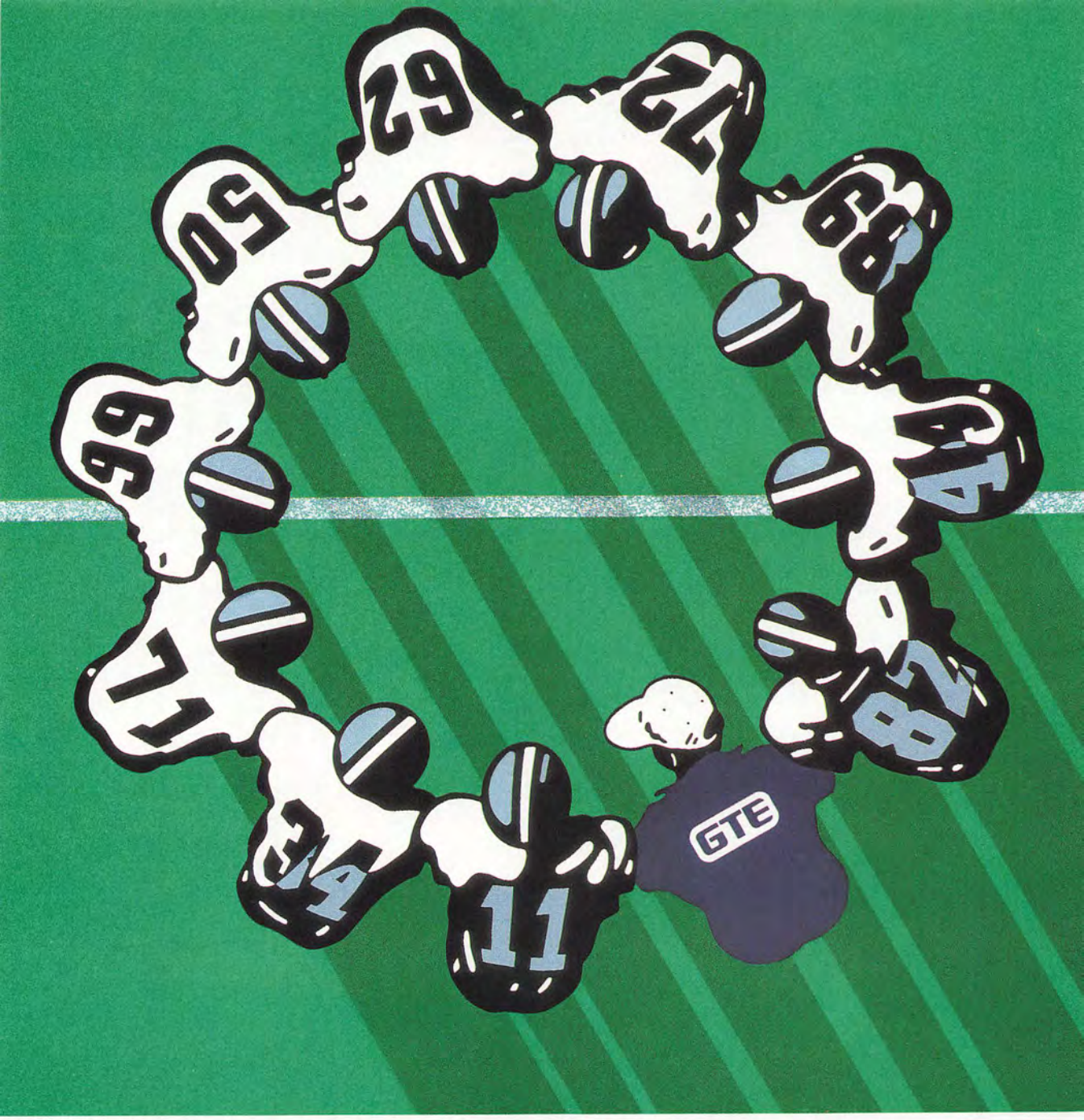
Behind the Scenes at the Super Bowl

GTE

THE POWER IS ON

Telecommunications Consultant to Super Bowl XXIV





No one gets closer to the Super Bowl action than we do.

When the NFC and AFC champions take the field, GTE is there for every play. That's because we're the full-service provider of telecommunications for Super Bowl XXIV.™

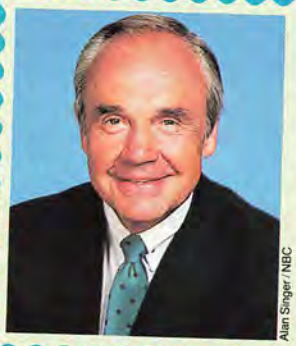
With a network of total communications and a fully staffed control center, we coordinate a complex and responsive communications system.

Whatever the need, GTE is always ready to carry the ball. From computer lines to microphones, helping a coach talk with the press box, or just letting a fan get in touch with home.

GTE has been a part of 5 Super Bowls, 5 Pro Bowls and over 300 NFL games. Maybe it's time we became a part of yours.

GTE

GTE. TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT TO SUPER BOWL XXIV.™ THE POWER IS ON



Allan Singer / NBC

Did you ever wonder what it takes to put on the Super Bowl? Having been in the broadcast booth for four Super Bowls, I've had an opportunity to see the monumental effort that goes into staging the biggest day in American sports. From NFL officials to television network personnel to corporate sponsors to local host committees to volunteer halftime performers, everyone pulls together to make the game a success. The product of all that work is a true cultural phenomenon—incomparable in its impact and international in scope, one that has surpassed the boundaries of sport. Here, then, are some backstage vignettes, the stories behind the big story, the teams behind the scenes at the biggest event of them all—the Super Bowl.

Dick Enberg

THE BIG PICTURE

Planning for an upcoming Super Bowl starts before the game site even is awarded. "We work with the various host committees during the selection process to identify any major problems before they ever can become problems," says Jim Steeg, the NFL director of special events. In the case of some sites, this can mean work on a Super Bowl can begin as much as four years in advance.

Past experience dictates the guidelines for site qualification. First of all, the stadium must seat a minimum of 70,000. Then there must be adequate accommodations for fans attending the game. The formula Steeg uses is that the number of available hotel rooms within one hour of the stadium must equal 40 percent of the stadium seating, which translates, for example, to 28,000 rooms for a 70,000-seat stadium. There also are practice sites and facilities to be considered, which are of utmost importance to the competing teams.

Al Messerschmidt

Jim Steeg

Transportation is a major consideration, including number of available buses, rental cars, taxis, and limousines already in the city, or that can be brought in from surrounding areas. Ground and air access also are important. "People come to the city all during Super Bowl week," Steeg says. "But they all want to leave on Monday. So why bring 70,000 people into a city with an airport that can handle only 5,000 passengers a day?" Also, with the game being held in port cities such as Miami and San Diego, cruise ship access also has become a factor.

"It's not just a matter of whether a city can handle the huge influx of people," Steeg says. "It's really a matter of whether they can handle the type of upscale people the game draws." In other words, adds Steeg, "we select the site based on the big issues, then it's up to our staff to button-down the smaller issues, such as security, parking, concessions, or whether the press box needs to be expanded to accommodate all the media people. Most of these can be resolved simply by working with the community."

Gin Ellis

But it all takes time—a lot of it. As the game gets closer, Steeg and his staff and NFL personnel find themselves commuting regularly between the league office in New York and the Super Bowl site. "I remember someone telling me after Super Bowl XIX that a total of more than 950 room nights were spent in the NFL's headquarters hotel in San Francisco by people doing game-related planning," Steeg says. "But it's necessary. You have to get to know a community as if it were yours. You have to know their needs and wishes for the year so that you don't do anything contrary to their best interests. It's a true partnership. To make each game successful, both parties—the NFL and the host city—must gain something."

That hasn't been a problem so far, to say the least. Besides providing a good game for football fans and a great show for television networks, the Super Bowl produces millions of dollars for the host city—which is why bidding is so intense among potential game sites. Estimates of the economic impact of Super Bowl XXIV on the New Orleans area range upward of $125 million. Super Bowls XVIII in Tampa and XIX in the San Francisco Bay Area produced direct economic impacts of $87.5 million and $113.5 million, respectively. And Super Bowl XXII in San Diego impacted the entire Southwest to the tune of $166.2 million, according to one market research report.

"Our objective," Steeg says, "is for the fan to have a good enough time at the game, that when it comes time for him to make vacation or business travel plans, he will want to visit the area again."

Steeg's work on a game doesn't end once the final gun has sounded. Attending to the last loose ends can take weeks and, in one instance, months. In March, 1986, following Super Bowl XX, Steeg discovered that one of the 150 rental cars the league had provided had been sitting in a hotel parking lot since the game. "Actually," Steeg says, "it was pretty funny—unless you had to pay the bill. Once the show's over, the tent folds and somebody always forgets something."

Cover photography (clockwise from bottom right): Gin Ellis; Bob Rosato; Corky Trewin; Long Photography; *background photo:* Al Messerschmidt.

GTE
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GLOBAL GAME

Corky Trewin

When the Super Bowl was first played in January, 1967, it was called the AFL-NFL World Championship Game. Using the term "world" for that game, which did not sell out the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum (the only non-sell-out in Super Bowl history), may have been a bit premature. However, over the past 24 years, the Super Bowl—and the sport of American football—has attained phenomenal international appeal, making the NFL's title game a true global event.

The Super Bowl's overseas presence began rather modestly with a closed-circuit broadcast of Super Bowl XI in Great Britain. You now have to travel to Antarctica to be on a continent that does not receive the Super Bowl telecast. More than 750 million people viewed Super Bowl XXIII live or on a delayed basis on television in 58 countries. Because of time zone differences, viewers in England and Germany had to stay up past midnight to see the last-minute drive that gave the 49ers a 20-16 victory over the Bengals. Other parts of the world saw the game live the next day when the event was promoted as "Super Monday."

"This year, Russia is part of the broadcast package," says Val Pinchbeck, the director of broadcasting for the league. "In fact, someone recently commented that Super Bowl Sunday is now an international holiday."

According to Jim Heffernan, the NFL's director of public relations, there were 2,300 media-related credentials distributed for last year's game in Miami. Of those, approximately 125 went to media from abroad. Though most foreign countries elected to carry the telecast of the game with the originating network's American commentary, stations in France, Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, and Spain each supplied their own native-speaking broadcasters to announce the game. Radio reports were carried by the British Broadcasting Corporation, the Canadian Broadcasting Company, and Reuters, and to military personnel stationed around the world on the Armed Forces Network. Additionally, newspapers and magazines from Canada, Finland, France, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, West Germany, and the United Kingdom (20 publications) sent staff people.

HOT TIX

No matter who's in the game, Super Bowl tickets are difficult to get—but not impossible. Each year, the NFL office accepts requests for tickets to the next Super Bowl between February 1 and June 1. One request per person or organization is allowed. A random drawing is held and several hundred lucky fans get the chance to purchase two tickets at face value. This year more than 25,000 requests were received.

"The original purpose of the drawing was to take care of fans who are not team season tickets holders or who don't live in the area of an NFL team," says NFL director of special events Jim Steeg.

There is a strict formula for distribution of Super Bowl tickets within the league: 20 percent go to each of the conference champion teams, 10 percent go to the host-city team, the 25 other teams get 1.2 percent each, and the remaining 20 percent goes to the league office. Out of this NFL allotment come 200 tickets that are made available to charities.

"We carefully evaluate all the charity requests," Steeg says. "We look at the scope of their programs and how much money they are trying to raise. And we require a complete accounting afterward."

The international popularity of the game has created additional demand for tickets from fans in foreign countries. Consequently, the NFL makes a limited number of tickets available to foreign tour operators for sale to non-American fans. These tour groups are thoroughly screened, and must offer programs to educate their groups about American football and the Super Bowl.

"For example," Steeg says, "one Norwegian tour group this year has [former NFL kicker] Jan Stenerud as its guide."

Super Bowl Sites

Dates and sites for upcoming Super Bowls:

- Super Bowl XXV, January 27, 1991, Tampa Stadium, Tampa
- Super Bowl XXVI, January 26, 1992, Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome, Minneapolis

GOOD SCOUTS

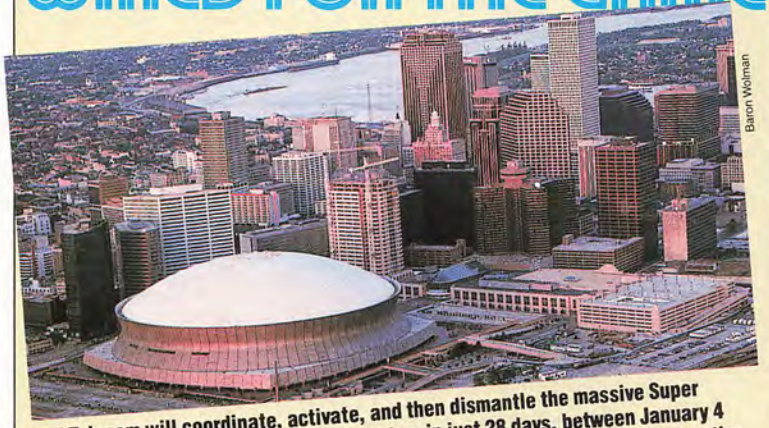
Super Bowl XXIV marks the fifth year in a row GTE is the exclusive sponsor of the NFL's only in-stadium event for spectators. What the *New York Times* called "GTE's most impressive promotion" featured distribution of seat cushions to all fans who attended Game XXIII in Miami.

Last year, GTE made a donation to the Miami chapter of the Boy Scouts in exchange for its help putting special seat cushions in place. The previous year volunteers from the San Diego chapter of Special Olympics worked night and day strapping cushions on the 73,302 seats in San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium.

Because of the cushioned seating in the Superdome, this year's GTE-sponsored promotion will feature commemorative sets of the new NFL Pro Set trading cards. The local chapter of the Boy Scouts will collate the cards into souvenir albums and will help hand them out to all fans entering the Superdome.

GTE
THE POWER IS ON

WIRED FOR THE GAME



Baron Wolman

GTE Telecom will coordinate, activate, and then dismantle the massive Super Bowl short-term telecommunications system in just 28 days, between January 4 and 31, 1990. More than 800 separate telephone circuits will be connected to the eight Super Bowl facilities.

Super Bowl Numbers

Here are some facts to give you a line on GTE's Super Bowl telecommunications system:

- Number of NFL lines: **275**
- Number of network broadcast lines: **100**
- Number of lines, domestic media: **430**
- Number of lines, foreign media: **30**
- Numbers of lines, miscellaneous: **40**
- Total GTE Telecom lines: **875**

Fred Mullane

Telecommunications installation begins at a "cross connect," which is situated in a central location within the stadium. This terminal is where all telephone lines meet, and incoming and outgoing calls are sent to their various destinations.

No NFL team ever has made it to the Super Bowl for five consecutive years. But GTE has. As telecommunications consultant to Super Bowl XXIV, GTE Telecom's Special Event Services once again will provide on-site equipment, voice, and data services to the Lousiana Superdome.

The extensive installation will include additional state-of-the-art equipment for the field-to-press box communications of the two Super Bowl teams, the NFL, and the press from around the world who will be attending the game. GTE also will provide equipment for the NFL headquarters hotel, the championship teams' hotels, and the media hotel.

Al Messerschmidt

GTE and NFL personnel, such as league executive director Don Weiss (*in blue jacket*), work side by side in the weeks prior to the Super Bowl, conducting numerous tests to ensure that all telecommunications equipment is in top working order on Super Sunday.

Dave Boss

The commissioner's box at the stadium is a key part of the overall telecommunications system. The equipment enables league officials, such as NFL director of special events Jim Steeg (*right, wearing headset*) to keep the commissioner informed of all developments during the game. GTE also provides the commissioner with the capability to contact personnel in charge of any aspect of the event.

Fred Mullane

Fred Mullane

GTE Telecom also installs communications for NFL field officials to communicate with the master NFL control. This communication system is located at each team's sideline.

Long Photography

Al Messerschmidt

The system GTE will help install at the Superdome will handle NFL control, instant replay, scoreboard control, security, and other strategic areas for NFL officials. Most lines on the system are "direct connects" at NFL control to and from virtually every functional area in the Superdome. Each year since Super Bowl XX, GTE personnel (*shown here working at Super Bowl XXII in San Diego*) have played a major role in the installation of equipment to meet the telecommunications needs of the NFL and the print and electronic media.

GTE
THE POWER IS ON

Each year, the three best teams

Of course, while the conference champions compete on the field, our GTE team more or less takes on the whole extravaganza.

Linking spotters to sidelines. Reporters to data lines. And the Commissioner to just about everyone.

Providing, in short, a customized voice and data communications system for the entire stadium, the teams and the NFL staff.

And while it's been a special assignment of ours for the past five years, it's much like what we can do for any business.

GTE. TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT TO SUPER BOWL XXIV.™

make it to the Super Bowl.

Namely, analyze communications needs, then provide a solution in the form of a customized GTE network.

What's more, we not only implement systems and maintain them, we can add to them as your business grows.

What it all means is this: It's not just communications we offer, it's solutions.

To discuss what we can do for your company, call your GTE representative.

Or, if you'd prefer to see us in action, just tune in the next Super Bowl.

GTE

THE POWER IS ON

Baron Wolman

FULLTIME HALFTIME

The 12 minutes of color, sound, and excitement that make up the Super Bowl halftime show are deceptive. They go by quickly—a blur of music and pageantry—yet months and months of planning, preparation, and rehearsal are needed to make them happen.

The Super Bowl is no ordinary football game, and it is only fitting that it have an extraordinary halftime show. To those ends, halftime show producers have gone to great lengths to field entertainment extravaganzas. Take, for example, Up With People, the only group ever to perform at four Super Bowl halftimes. For their show at Super Bowl XX, they imported more than 500 students from 22 countries and combined four of their globetrotting casts. At Super Bowl XXI, Walt Disney Productions not only used a 2,000-member cast of performers, but had the 100,000-plus fans in the Rose Bowl participate in two card stunts utilizing the stadium seat cushions provided by GTE. As support for its famed Rockettes precision dance troupe, Radio City Music Hall Productions assembled 88 grand pianos, the largest number ever used for one performance, as far as anyone can determine, in Super Bowl XXII at San Diego. In Miami, at Super Bowl XXIII, MagicCom Entertainment pulled off the largest magic card trick ever attempted with the help of the in-stadium spectators, and combined with NBC and the Nuoptix process to stage the first halftime ever telecast in 3-D. The first audience participation halftime was staged at Super Bowl XI in Pasadena's Rose Bowl. It was produced by the late Bob Jani for Walt Disney Productions and featured brilliantly-hued full-stadium card stunts.

In each of these cases, the productions involved intensive local talent searches, the hard work of dozens of community organizations, schools, and colleges, and mind-boggling coordination problems. There also were tremendous logistical challenges to be faced, such as getting those 88 pianos on and off the field. Or, for Disney's Hollywood salute in Pasadena, transforming the playing field into a huge dance floor stretching from one 35-yard line to the other, which also required erecting 40 light stanchions and laying two miles of electrical wire—all in less than five minutes.

The same monumental efforts are required for the Super Bowl pregame show as well. "Like everything else at the Super Bowl, the shows are getting bigger every year," says Bob Best, who has produced six of the last seven pregame shows. "We're always swimming upstream."

Besides dealing with logistics, cast members (many of whom are volunteers and have limited rehearsal time), and details such as costumes and credentials, Best also has to enlist name talent as hosts, performers, and singers of the National Anthem. "I try to make my little chunk fit into the big picture," Best says.

MAKING CONCESSIONS

Imagine you're having a Super Bowl party for more than 70,000 people. How do you feed them all?

"It isn't really a problem," says Frank Fry, general manager of Ogden-Allied Services, which runs the catering and concessions at the Superdome. "We base our ordering and planning on past events, and have detailed records on events at the Superdome going back to 1975, the year it opened."

But just in case you ever need to order food in super quantities, here are some guidelines. At Super Bowl XX in 1986, the last time the game was held at the Superdome, 73,818 fans consumed 35,597 hot dogs (nearly 3¼ tons), more than 3,000 other sandwiches, plus cases and cases of peanuts, popcorn, and other snack foods. They washed all that down with 13,546 gallons of beer, 2,071 gallons of cocktails, 53 gallons of wine, 6,145 gallons of soda, and 33 gallons of coffee.

P•A•R•T•Y T•I•M•E

It's been held on a movie lot and in an airplane terminal, at a racetrack and on board the Queen Mary, and it has filled convention centers in Super Bowl host cities. It is the NFL Friday Night Party, the biggest social event of Super Bowl week. Invitations to it are almost as coveted as Super Bowl tickets.

The NFL doesn't do corporate entertaining during the year, preferring to entertain on a grand scale at the Super Bowl.

"In the spring we tour the available party sites suggested by the host city and then make our choice," says Susan McCann Minogue, NFL's assistant director of special events who has coordinated the last six parties. "We need 100,000 square feet for a party of this magnitude with 3,000 invited guests. That limits our options in some cities."

The various elements of the party are bid out individually, including catering, decorations, lighting and sound, and entertainment. (Speaking of entertainment, the venues usually are so large that more than one group or band generally performs at the same time with no overlap of sound.)

Each party is given a theme reflecting something about the host city or region, such as last year's "Salsa and Spice" theme in Miami or this year's "La Fête New Orleans." The theme is modified and implemented to best fit the venue. For example, at the Hollywood-themed party held at the Universal Studios lot in Los Angeles for Super Bowl XXI, Minogue recalls, the huge outdoor setting required "160,000 square feet of tenting—three party tents and seven satellite kitchens."

There are problems inherent in every venue and each party is different, but Minogue says she tries to keep it all in perspective. "The ball gets kicked off on Super Sunday no matter how the party goes," she says.

Super Bowl Crowds

- Total Attendance (Super Bowl I-XXIII): **1,880,502**
- Largest Crowd: **103,985,** Super Bowl XIV, Rose Bowl, 1/20/80
- Smallest Crowd: **61,946,** Super Bowl I, L.A. Coliseum, 1/15/67

GTE
THE POWER IS ON

FIELD OF DREAMS

Dave Cross

George Toma doesn't have to worry about mud or snow on the field for this year's Super Bowl. But he's got plenty of other things to handle as head of the grounds crew. Toma, who has prepared the field for all 24 Super Bowls, says he was in New Orleans in October to check out both the Superdome field and the two practice facilities. Two weeks prior to the game, Toma shipped a tractor-trailer load of equipment to New Orleans for use on all three fields.

"Most people don't realize that we have to maintain the practice fields," Toma says. "They are just as important, and more work than the game field."

The NFC team will practice at the Saints' facility, which is maintained to NFL standards. But the AFC team will practice at Tulane University. There, Toma not only had to reseed the grass with a ton of special seed, he had to erect, paint, and pad new regulation goal posts and put up 1,500 feet of tennis background screen around the field for privacy and security. Also, both fields are painted with green dye as necessary so that lines and hashmarks stand out.

Because other athletic events are held at the Superdome prior to the Super Bowl, Toma and his crew of 12, headed by his son Chip, have less than a week to get the stadium field prepared. Working around pregame and halftime show practices and network television personnel, they first make sure the AstroTurf playing field is clean. If it isn't, they must remove the carpet in 15-foot-wide rolls and take it outside and wash it.

Once the carpet is re-installed, Toma's crew lays down specially made stencils of the competing teams' names in the end zones, the NFL shield logo at midfield, and the Super Bowl logo at the 25-yard lines. The stencils are made from plastic sheeting and have holes through which the crew rubs carpenter's chalk to outline the designs.

"Then," says Toma, "it's like painting by the numbers." A special canvas tarpaulin with hashmarks and field numbers painted on it is put down over the finished field to protect it during halftime and pregame rehearsals.

"But," Toma says, "sometimes we still have to re-paint the field."

Video Audibles

When it comes to broadcasting the Super Bowl, director Sandy Grossman has all-pro credentials. Super Bowl XXIV will be his sixth Super Bowl telecast for CBS.

"It has almost become a cliche in television sports to say that you're going to cover the Super Bowl just like any other football game," says Grossman. "Then you wind up using twice the equipment and personnel. It honestly is not just another game. It's a very special day. But it's difficult, too, because you're not only catering to the die-hard fan who's been building up to the game all season. You've also got the peripheral fan who watches to be part of the event. Consequently, you have to show a lot of different aspects of the game."

Just as a quarterback has a split second to read a defense and start a play, Grossman must read a bank of monitors in the CBS control truck and quickly choose from numerous camera angles and replay sources. "You have to cover the action," he says, "but you also have to show the nuances. Everything is escalated, every part of the broadcast is that much more important because so many people are focused on it."

Grossman sees a parallel between playing the Super Bowl and televising it. "The NFL is the only major professional sports league that has a one-game championship," he says. "All the other sports play a championship series, so if one game broadcast doesn't go particularly well, you have other chances. But the Super Bowl is different. You have one shot at the highest-rated television program ever. The pressure is tremendous, but it's the job we all strive for."

SHOW & TELL

This year's Super Bowl theme art, by award-winning illustrator Gary Kelley, was assigned more than a year ago. The lead time is common, according to David Boss, vice president and creative director of NFL Properties Creative Services who has been involved in the Super Bowl theme art process since Game I. "We decide upon an approach compatible with the host city," he says, "then choose an illustrator or photographer who can capture the image or feeling we want. It is impossible to show the two champion teams, so city themes and symbols play a vital role."

Boss says he doesn't have a favorite among the 24 theme works to date, but when pressed he mentions Andy Zito's automobile hood ornaments for Super Bowl XVI in Pontiac, Michigan, and Chris Hopkins's Miami sunrise from Super Bowl XXIII as outstanding examples.

NFLP Creative Services editor-in-chief John Wiebusch mentions Peter Palombi's orange-crate art for Super Bowl XI as his personal favorite, along with Stan Caplan's photograph of old jazz instruments for Super Bowl XV in New Orleans.

The Super Bowl game program, which features the theme art on its cover, is Wiebusch's responsibility. "The program has grown in both size and complexity over the past few years," Wiebusch says, "from 140 pages for Super Bowl I to more than 210 pages this year."

The program is produced between August and December. Everything, that is, except the "live" section relating to the two teams in the game. Material such as charts, player photographs, and rosters is prepared ahead for each of the eight divisional playoff teams. "Then it is a waiting game to see which will be used," Wiebusch says.

Immediately after the championship games end on Sunday night, Creative Services' editorial staff assembles for its traditional "all-nighter" to write the scouting reports on the championship match-up. The printed programs appear in the Super Bowl city and the cities of the competing teams by the end of that week. A specially-printed U.K. edition goes on sale throughout England the next week.

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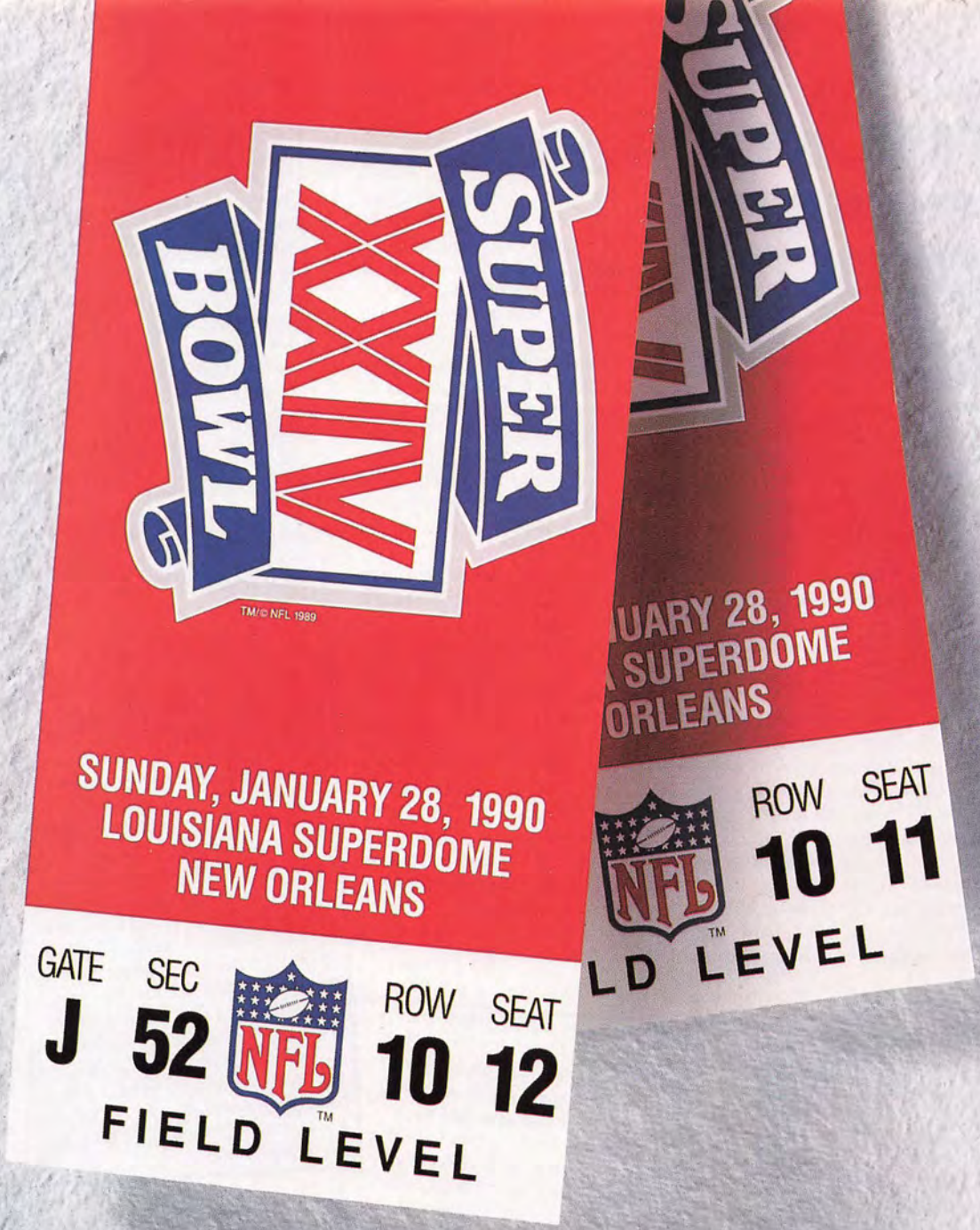

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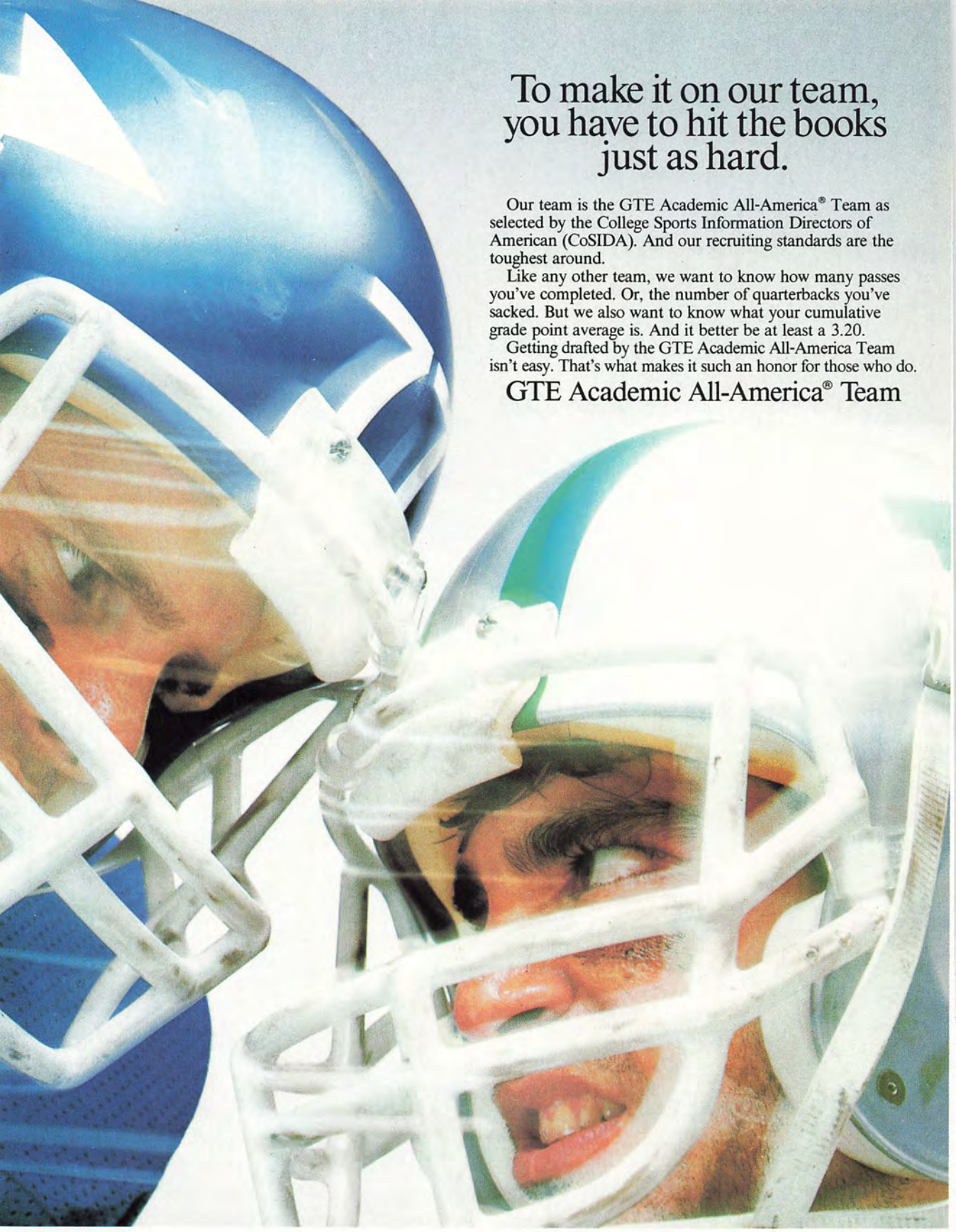

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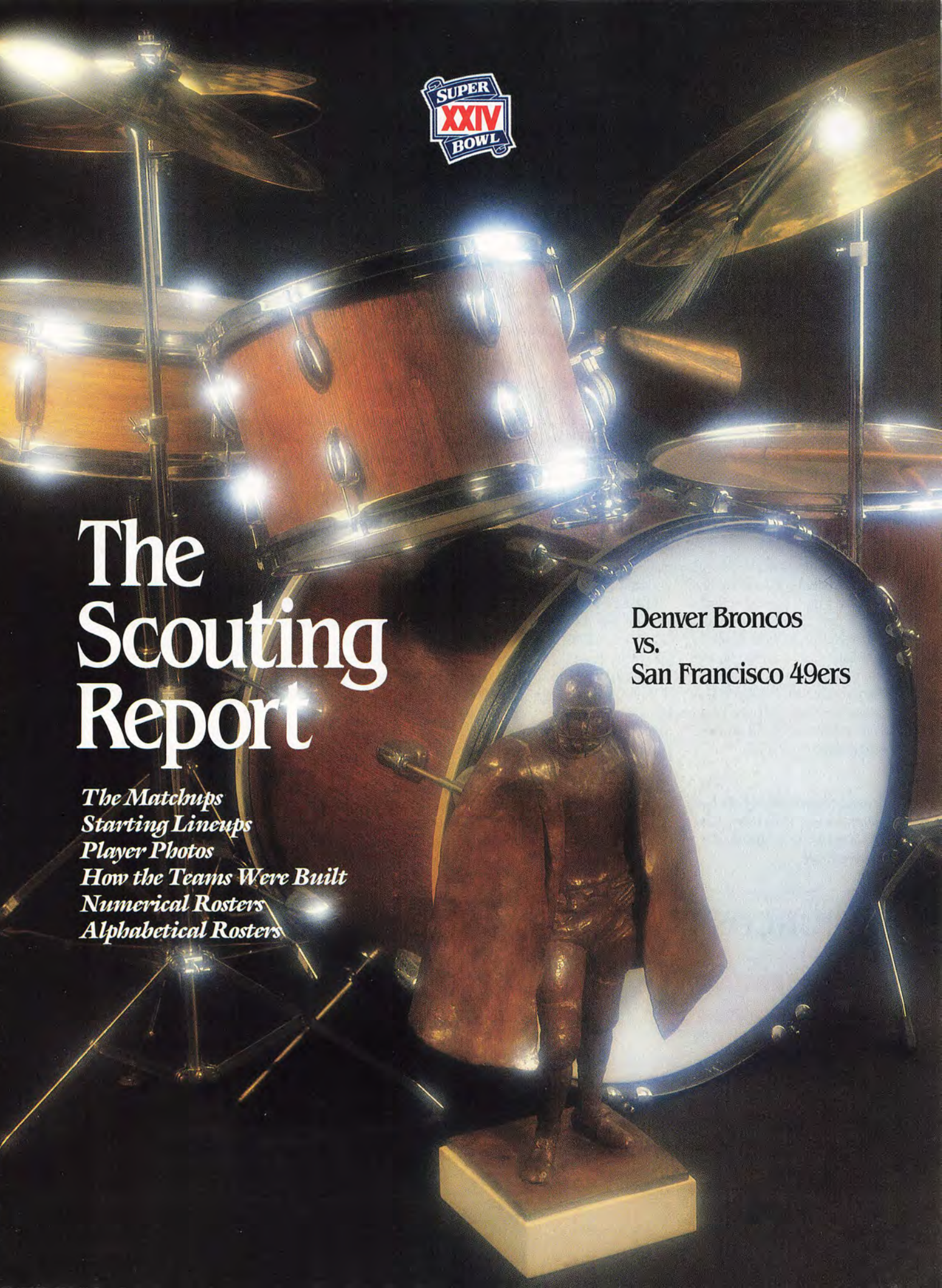


The Scouting Report

Denver Broncos
vs.
San Francisco 49ers

The Matchups
Starting Lineups
Player Photos
How the Teams Were Built
Numerical Rosters
Alphabetical Rosters

Scouting Report

Denver Broncos

After the AFC Championship Game, there must be many who think the Denver Broncos are the same, old story: John Elway and a lot of other guys.

But that's not the case for head coach Dan Reeves's 1989 Broncos, who are making their third Super Bowl appearance in four years. The AFC champions have made a commitment to the running game, with rookie Bobby Humphrey providing the impetus that got them a number-six ranking in the NFL.

They also have discarded the old bend-but-don't-break defense and adopted a more aggressive system under new defensive coordinator Wade Phillips. In short, they are a much different team than the ones that suffered blowouts at the hands of the New York Giants (39-20 in Super Bowl XXI) and Washington Redskins (42-10 two years ago in Super Bowl XXII).

For the third time in the last four seasons, Dan Reeves has guided the Broncos into the Super Bowl.

Still, when the Broncos face up to San Francisco's 49ers, the Team of the Decade, Elway will be the focal point when the Broncos have the ball.

Elway's 1989 statistics are misleading. He was only the ninth-ranked passer in the AFC with a 73.7 rating, mainly because of his 18 touchdown passes and 18 interceptions. He passed for 3,051 yards and led the Broncos to an 11-5 record.

But Elway took charge in the AFC Championship Game, completing 20 of 36 passes for 385 yards and three touchdowns.

Elway's primary receiver is Vance Johnson, who had 76 catches for 1,095 yards in 1989. Mark Jackson (28), Steve Sewell (25), Michael Young (22), and Clarence Kay (21) all are used in the passing game, as is Humphrey, the rookie out of Alabama. Humphrey had a sensational year, running for 1,151 yards, catching 22 passes, and scoring eight touchdowns. But his status is uncertain after he suffered cracked ribs against Cleveland. Eighth-year veteran Sammy Winder is in reserve.

To be successful against the 49ers, the Broncos will have to keep San Francisco's offense off the field. That means the Broncos' offensive line will have to control the line of scrimmage.

Defensively, the Broncos have completely revamped their philosophy. They play a more aggressive game, although they seldom blitz. The system worked well enough to rank third overall in the NFL. Basically, Denver employs a 3-4 with a four-man rush and a zone secondary.

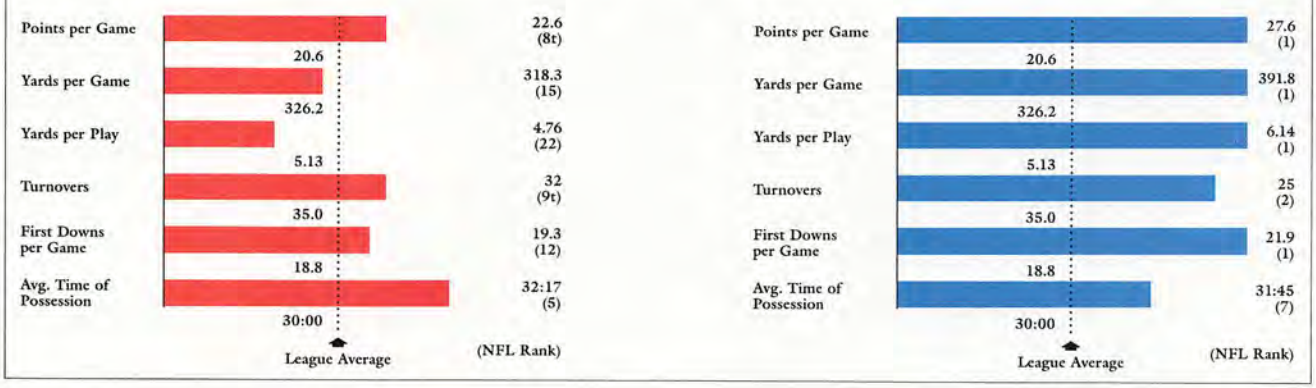
Veteran linebacker Karl Mecklenburg still is the defensive key. Linebacker Simon Fletcher, defensive ends Ron Holmes and Alphonso Carreker, rookie safety Steve Atwater, and Pro Bowl safety Dennis Smith also lead the defense.

The Broncos are young, starting six players on both offense and defense who did not start or were not on the roster last year.

Something else to ponder: The Broncos have not lost to the Team of the Decade during the decade, winning their only three confrontations, the last a 16-13 overtime victory in 1988.

Sept. 10 Tyrone Braxton and Randy Robbins scored on 34- and 18-yard interception returns. Denver 34, Kansas City 20.
Sept. 18 The Broncos took a 21-0 lead as rookie David Treadwell kicked four field goals. Denver 28, Buffalo 14.
Sept. 24 John Elway threw two touchdown passes to Mark Jackson and ran 29 yards for a score. Denver 31, L.A. Raiders 21.
Oct. 1 The Broncos lost their first game on Matt Bahr's 48-yard field goal as time expired. Cleveland 16, Denver 13.
Oct. 8 Bobby Humphrey ran for 102 yards and scored the winning touchdown in his first start. Denver 16, San Diego 10.
Oct. 15 Sammy Winder ran for 92 yards and the defense held the Colts to seven first downs. Denver 14, Indianapolis 3.
Oct. 22 Dennis Smith's interception set up Treadwell's 27-yard winning field goal in overtime. Denver 24, Seattle 21.
Oct. 29 Elway was sacked seven times; the Eagles' Keith Byars scored a touchdown with 5:25 left. Philadelphia 28, Denver 24.
Nov. 5 Humphrey ran for 105 yards and scored on runs of 22 and 12 yards. Denver 34, Pittsburgh 7.
Nov. 12 Greg Kragen scored on a fumble return; Treadwell's field goal won it with a second left. Denver 16, Kansas City 13.
Nov. 20 Gary Kubiak replaced Elway, who was ill, and threw two touchdown passes. Denver 14, Washington 10.
Nov. 26 The Broncos became the first team to clinch a division title as Elway threw four touchdown passes. Denver 41, Seattle 14.
Dec. 3 Jeff Jaeger's 26-yard field goal in overtime decided the game. L.A. Raiders 16, Denver 13.
Dec. 10 The Giants took a 14-0 halftime lead and hung on in a snowstorm. N.Y. Giants 14, Denver 7.
Dec. 16 Humphrey ran for 128 yards as the Broncos clinched home-field advantage in the playoffs. Denver 37, Phoenix 0.
Dec. 24 Elway sat out the second half. Chris Bahr won the game with a last-second, 45-yard field goal. San Diego 19, Denver 16.
Jan. 7 Climaxing a 71-yard drive, Melvin Bratton scored the winning touchdown with 2:27 left. Denver 24, Pittsburgh 23.
Jan. 14 Elway saved his best for the AFC title game, passing for 385 yards and three touchdowns. Denver 37, Cleveland 21.

Broncos Offense 49ers



Pete J. Groh

SAN FRANCISCO
49ERS

San Francisco 49ers

They won more regular-season games (104) in the 1980s than any other team. They won Super Bowls XVI and XIX, and they claimed another one last year in XXIII.

They began 1989 with a new head coach (George Seifert having replaced Bill Walsh, who retired). Then they posted the NFL's best record (14-2), after which they steamrollered two excellent football teams—the Vikings and the Rams—by a combined 71-16 score in the playoffs.

They have the highest-rated quarterback of all time, of one season, of the playoffs, of the Super Bowl. Joe Montana is beyond adjectives, beyond any man who ever played his position. In the games against Minnesota and Los Angeles, he completed nearly 80 percent of his passes. He never has thrown an interception in the Super Bowl. He has been the game's most valuable player twice, and last year (when he wasn't the MVP) he passed for 357 yards.

In his first year as an NFL head coach, George Seifert led the 49ers to the best record in the NFL.

The San Francisco 49ers are an opponent's worst nightmare. And Joe Montana is only the tip of the iceberg (unquestionably the *top* of the iceberg, but still only the tip). This is an extremely talented team. This is a great team.

So why bother to play this game? Why not declare the 49ers the Team of the Year, the Team of the Decade (this after all is the last game of the 1980s), a team to rival the Steelers of the '70s, the Packers of the '60s, and other epic teams? But don't forget people were saying the same thing last year before Super Bowl XXIII after the 49ers had trampled the Vikings and Bears by a combined 62-12 score. Don't forget that the 49ers needed a Montana-directed 92-yard drive in the game's closing minutes to defeat the Bengals 20-16.

And don't forget people were saying the same things before Super Bowls III and IV about the Colts and the Vikings. Don't forget that both of those "certain" winners *lost*.

No doubt the 49ers are big trouble for the Broncos, but then one suspects that the 49ers would be big trouble for the AFC Pro Bowl team.

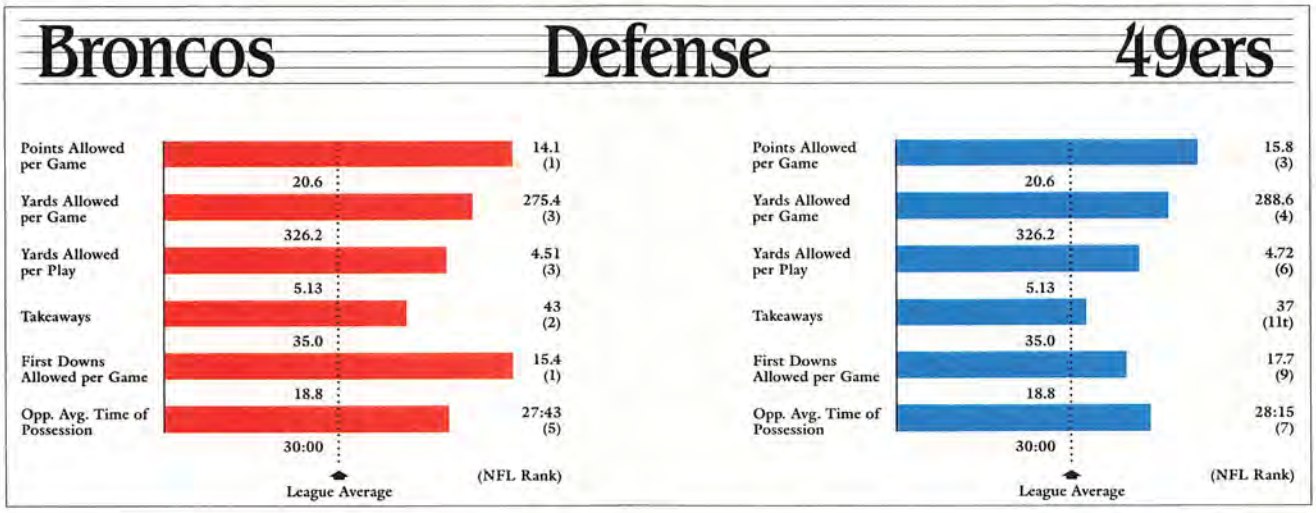
San Francisco is awesome, but the 49ers are not unbeatable (the Rams won 13-12 early in the season; the Packers won 21-17 in midseason). Still, it will take an epic effort by the Broncos to upend a team whose average winning margin was nearly 16 points this year.

The NFL's number-one rated offense is led by the legendary Montana, but the cast of exceptional characters includes Jerry Rice, John Taylor, Roger Craig, Tom Rathman, and an offensive line that held the Vikings and the Rams sackless.

The defense ranked second in the NFC and fourth in the NFL. Ronnie Lott, the peerless safety, is this unit's leader. But keep an eye on Darryl Pollard, Pierce Holt, Michael Walter, Charles Haley, and a lot of men who hit first and ask questions later.

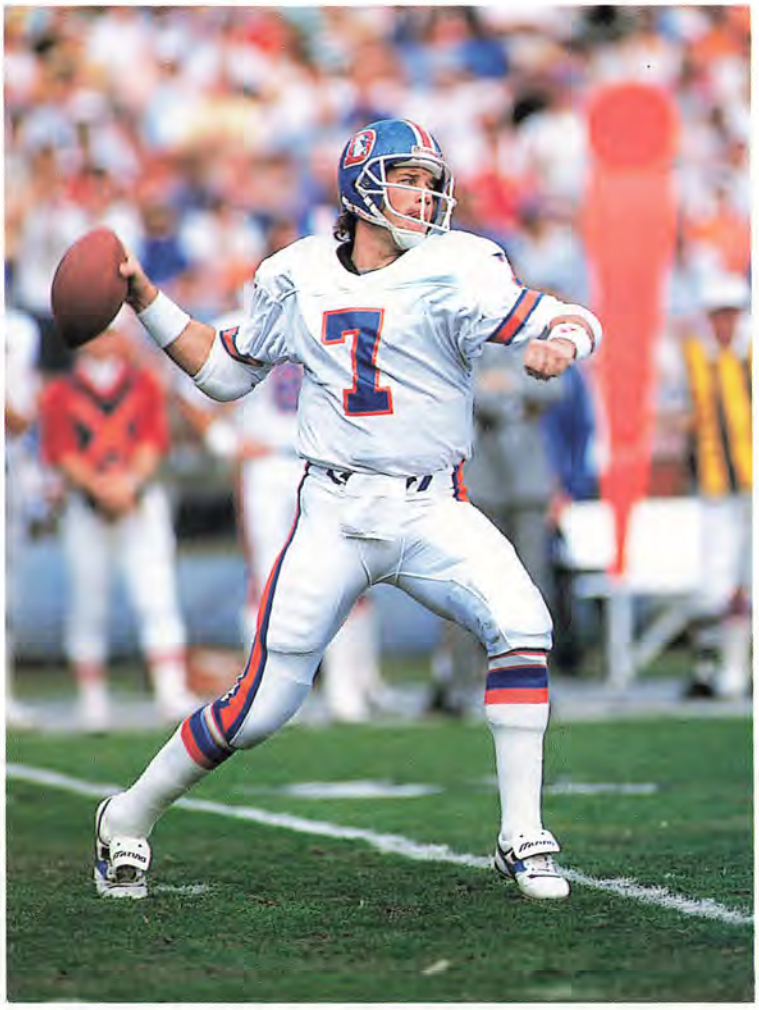
This also is a team on a mission . . . a mission to prove that Walsh was only *one* of the reasons for the earlier success.

Sept. 10 Jerry Rice's late touchdown gave new head coach George Seifert his first NFL victory. San Francisco 30, Indianapolis 24.
Sept. 17 Joe Montana scored on a four-yard bootleg with 40 seconds left to prevent an upset. San Francisco 20, Tampa Bay 16.
Sept. 24 Montana shrugged off eight sacks to throw four touchdown passes in fourth quarter. San Francisco 38, Philadelphia 28.
Oct. 1 The Rams kept 49ers out of the end zone, winning on Mike Lansford's last-second kick. L.A. Rams 13, San Francisco 12.
Oct. 8 Two fourth-quarter scoring passes from Montana to John Taylor brought 49ers back. San Francisco 24, New Orleans 20.
Oct. 15 Steve Young subbed for Montana and helped deal Cowboys their sixth consecutive loss. San Francisco 31, Dallas 14.
Oct. 22 The 49ers reclaimed first place in the NFC West with a victory at Stanford Stadium. San Francisco 37, New England 20.
Oct. 29 Three field goals by Mike Cofer and nine sacks by the defense provided another road victory. San Francisco 23, N.Y. Jets 10.
Nov. 6 Montana returned from a knee injury to throw three touchdown passes, two to Rice. San Francisco 31, New Orleans 13.
Nov. 12 Roger Craig rushed for 109 yards and Montana threw three touchdown passes in 49ers' romp. San Francisco 45, Atlanta 3.
Nov. 19 The inspired Packers forced four turnovers and squelched the 49ers' comeback try. Green Bay 21, San Francisco 17.
Nov. 26 Tom Rathman's touchdown plunge with a minute left iced this showdown of 9-2 teams. San Francisco 34, N.Y. Giants 24.
Dec. 3 Young came off the bench to erase a 10-6 halftime deficit and lead the 49ers to victory. San Francisco 23, Atlanta 10.
Dec. 11 John Taylor's 92- and 95-yard touchdowns highlighted wild Monday night battle. San Francisco 30, L.A. Rams 27.
Dec. 17 Craig rushed for 105 yards as the 49ers scored all of their points in the second half. San Francisco 21, Buffalo 10.
Dec. 24 The defense forced five turnovers and Cofer hit four field goals to shut out the sinking Bears. San Francisco 26, Chicago 0.
Jan. 6 The 49ers—and especially their offensive line—manhandled the talented Vikings. San Francisco 41, Minnesota 13.
Jan. 14 Montana hit 26 of 30 passes, while his counterpart Jim Everett threw three interceptions. San Francisco 30, L.A. Rams 3.



George Rose

Scouting Report Passing



George Rose

Strong-armed and strong-willed John Elway is the heart of the Broncos' offense. An adept scrambler, Elway passed for more than 3,000 yards (3,051) and ran for more than 200 (244) for the fifth consecutive season in 1989, an NFL record. He also threw 18 touchdown passes.

Broncos

The Broncos did not have a consistently productive passing game in 1989, but when John Elway and his offensive unit are hot—as they were throughout the playoffs—they can disrupt any defense.

Elway had what many considered a subpar year, but he still completed 53.6 percent of his passes for 3,051 yards and 18 touchdowns. He also threw 18 interceptions. He has no shortage of targets in an offense that relies mostly on quick, timing patterns. The elusive Vance Johnson emerged as a Pro Bowl-caliber receiver (76 catches for 1,095 yards) in 1989; of all the Denver receivers, he is the most likely to face double coverage against the 49ers. Mark Jackson is the other starter, and, like Johnson, he has sprinter's speed.

The Broncos also will bring Ricky Nattiel—who missed much of the season—and Michael Young into the game on obvious passing downs. Young is not particularly fast, but he is a tricky receiver who burned the Browns for two big plays, including a touchdown, in the AFC title game. Unlike San Francisco, Denver will go to the Shotgun formation in this situation.

Another third-and-long substitution brings Steve Sewell into the backfield. Sewell rarely runs the ball (only seven times in 1989), but he has hurt more than a few teams by taking shovel passes from Elway and sprinting through the middle of the line.

Near the goal line, tight ends Clarence Kay (21 receptions) and Orson Mobley (17) also must be taken into account. Pat Kelly, who started in place of Kay in the AFC title game, hurt his knee, underwent surgery, and won't play.

The Broncos' pass protection, though by no means dominant, is adequate, which usually is good enough when combined with Elway's unsurpassed mobility. Few teams have the courage to blitz heavily against Denver—Elway simply is too dangerous on the run, and his receivers (especially Johnson) have learned to alter their patterns accordingly when he scrambles from the pocket.

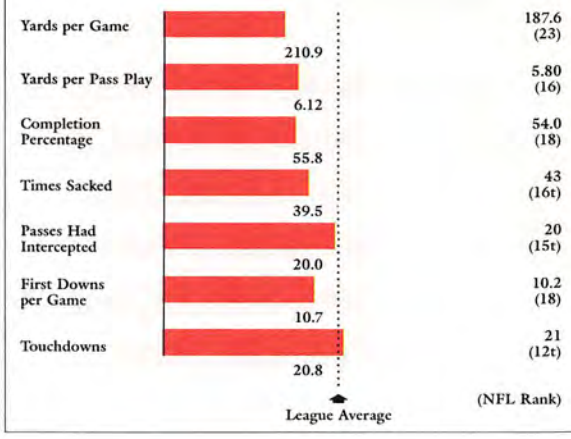
PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Pct.	Avg.	TD	%TD	Int.	Long	Rating
Elway	416	223	3,051	53.6	7.33	18	4.3	18	69	73.7
Kubiak	55	32	284	58.2	5.16	2	3.6	2	22	69.1
Humphrey	2	1	17	50.0	8.50	1	50.0	0	t17	118.8
Johnson	1	0	0	0.0	0.00	0	0.0	0	0	39.6

t—touchdown

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Johnson	76	1,095	14.4	69	7
Jackson	28	446	15.9	49	2
Sewell	25	416	16.6	56	3
Young	22	402	18.3	47	2
Humphrey	22	156	7.1	13	1
Kay	21	197	9.4	t20	2
Mobley	17	200	11.8	36	0
Winder	14	91	6.5	19	0
Nattiel	10	183	18.3	43	1
Bratton	10	69	6.9	t17	3
Alexander	8	84	10.5	28	0
Kelly	3	13	4.3	6	0

t—touchdown

Broncos



49ers

Maybe he just wanted to prove that he could succeed equally well in a system other than former head coach Bill Walsh's. Maybe it's the lure of a fourth Super Bowl ring. Whatever the reason, no other quarterback in the history of the NFL ever had a season like Joe Montana did in 1989, when the 49ers' signal-caller set a league record with a quarterback rating of 112.4.

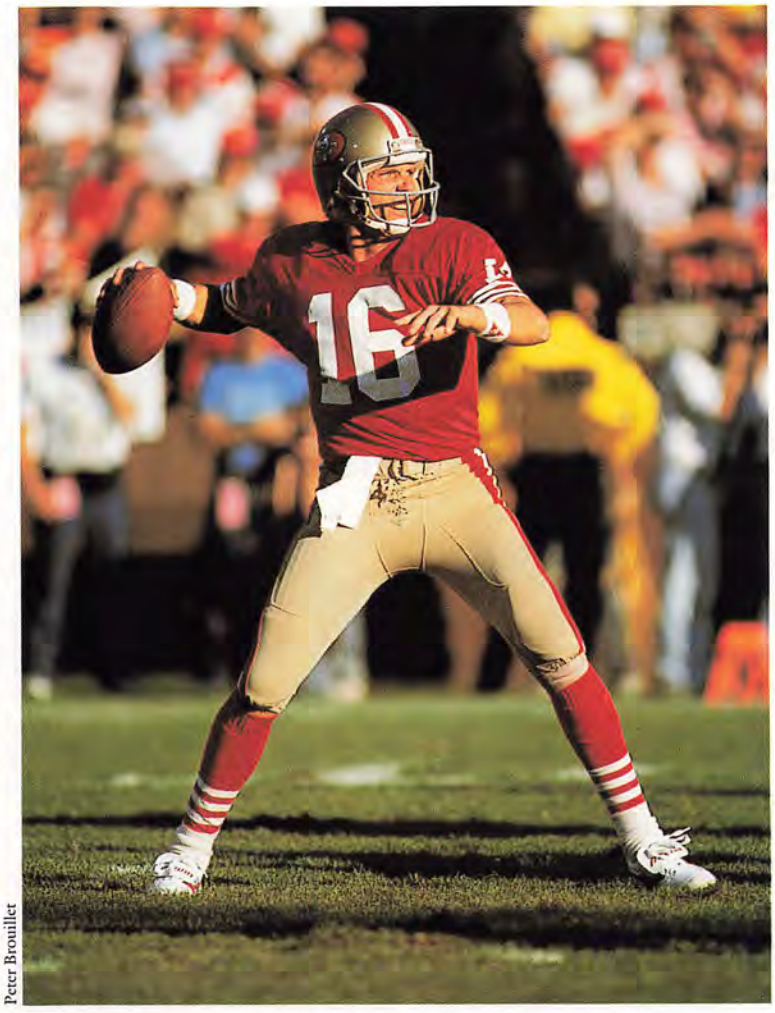
But Montana's regular-season performance (3,521 yards, 70.2 percent completion rate, 26 touchdowns, eight interceptions) barely foreshadowed his postseason play, in which he has completed 43 of 54 passes (79.6 percent) for 503 yards, six touchdowns, and no interceptions.

Perhaps the most telling image for the 49ers in the playoffs thus far, however, is that of Montana walking off the field of both games with his uniform clean. San Francisco allowed 45 sacks during the regular season, but, in two playoff encounters, Montana hardly has been rushed, let alone sacked. Timing and rhythm are everything in the 49ers' passing attack, and when Montana has time, his rhythm is deadly to opposing defenses.

The 49ers don't try to fool anyone with their passing game. There aren't a lot of fancy sets or situation substitutions. Jerry Rice (82 catches for a league-high 1,483 yards and 17 touchdowns) and John Taylor (60, 1,077, 10) line up as wide receivers, Tom Rathman (73 catches) and Roger Craig (49) are excellent pass catchers coming out of the backfield, and Brent Jones (40) is a rapidly emerging tight end.

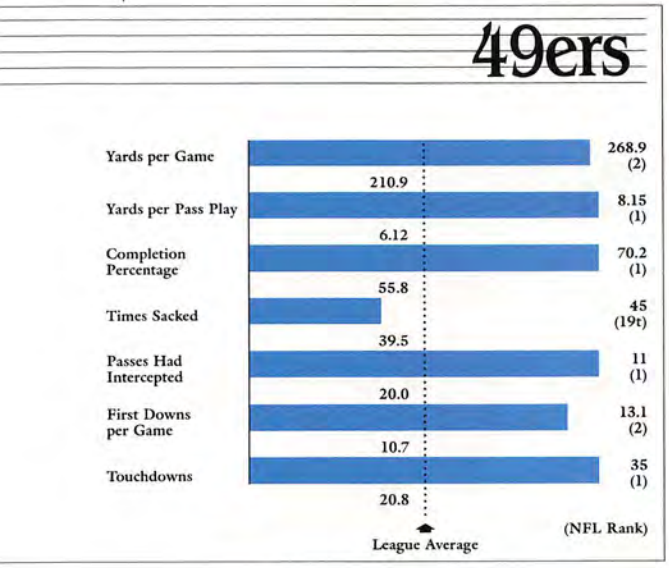
Montana probably reads the defense and implements a game plan better than any other quarterback in the league. Rice, the Super Bowl XXIII most valuable player, and Taylor, who caught the winning pass against the Bengals a year ago, are outstanding open-field runners who can turn the short slant into big gains. Take away the slant. . .and Montana can go over the middle to Jones. Take that away. . .and he always can check off to Rathman and Craig. Take away the short routes. . .and he can go back over the top for the deep pass to Rice or Taylor. . .

You get the idea.



Peter Brouillet

Voted player of the decade by Associated Press, Joe Montana was better than ever in 1989. He completed 70.2 percent of his passes for 26 touchdowns and was the highest-rated single-season passer in NFL history.



PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Pct.	Avg.	TD	%TD	Int.	Long	Rating
Montana	386	271	3,521	70.2	9.12	26	6.7	8	t95	112.4
Young	92	64	1,001	69.6	10.88	8	8.7	3	t50	120.8
Bono	5	4	62	80.0	12.40	1	20.0	0	t45	157.9

t—touchdown

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Rice	82	1,483	18.1	t68	17
Rathman	73	616	8.4	36	1
Taylor	60	1,077	18.0	t95	10
Craig	49	473	9.7	44	1
Jones	40	500	12.5	t36	4
Wilson	9	103	11.4	19	1
Sydney	9	71	7.9	13	0
Flagler	6	51	8.5	30	0
Walls	4	16	4.0	9	1
Henderson	3	130	43.3	78	0
Williams	3	38	12.7	17	0
Greer	1	26	26.0	26	0

t—touchdown

Scouting Report

Rushing

Mike Moore

Rookie running back Bobby Humphrey instilled life in an anemic rushing offense that ranked nineteenth in the league in 1988. Humphrey ran for 1,151 yards in his first season and the Broncos' running attack improved to sixth best in the NFL in 1989.

Broncos

Bobby Humphrey was like a burst of adrenalin for a weary rushing offense this season. The athletic rookie from Alabama ran for 1,151 yards, helping the Broncos improve their NFL ranking from nineteenth in 1988 to sixth in 1989. But Humphrey suffered bruised ribs against Cleveland in the AFC Championship Game and sat out most of Denver's 37-21 victory. The Broncos' ability to control the ball—and thus keep Joe Montana and Co. off the field—in Super Bowl XXIV might well depend on the extent of Humphrey's physical recovery.

Only one of Denver's starting offensive linemen, right tackle Ken Lanier, started two years ago in Super Bowl XXII. The current larger line has been reassembled to better facilitate the ground attack. Guards Jim Juriga (6-6, 275) and Doug Widell (a 6-4, 287-pound rookie) both are aggressive trap blockers. Much of Humphrey's running success begins with them.

It will take a great effort to neutralize the 49ers' stingy, underrated rushing defense, which ranked third in the NFL in 1989. Seeing all-pro nose tackle Michael Carter—a ferocious run stuffer—return to action for the 49ers two weeks ago couldn't have pleased Broncos offensive coordinator Chan Gailey.

Sammy Winder stepped in during Humphrey's absence against the Browns, and the eight-year veteran performed well. But Winder, a consistent, no-nonsense runner, isn't nearly as quick as the dazzling Humphrey, and he is less likely to break a big play.

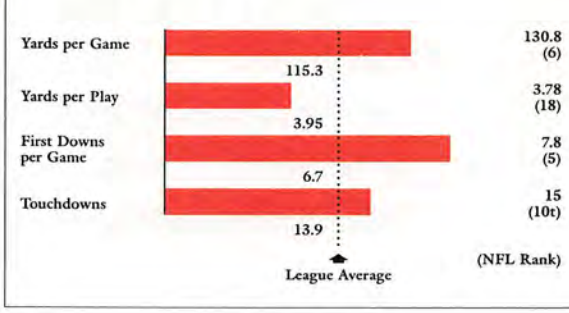
In short-yardage and goal-line situations, keep your eyes on 225-pound running back Melvin Bratton, another rookie. Bratton rushed for only 108 yards and a touchdown during the regular season, but he emerged as a threat when he scored two short touchdowns in the Broncos' 24-23 divisional playoff win against Pittsburgh. Jeff Alexander, a first-year free agent, is a 232-pounder who can be effective in traffic. Both Bratton and Alexander are punishing and well-disciplined lead blockers.

The last piece of Denver's rushing puzzle—and an important one—is John Elway, still one of the game's most mobile quarterbacks. Elway is a deadly scrambler, but his talents aren't limited to broken plays. The Broncos like to spring him on quarterback draws, especially in the opponent's half of the field.

One last note: The 49ers seek to wear down opposing defenses by retaining possession for long, time-consuming drives. It is crucial that the Denver running backs hang onto the ball, allowing the defense to catch its breath.

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Humphrey	294	1,151	3.9	40	7
Winder	110	351	3.2	16	2
Elway	48	244	5.1	31	3
Alexander	45	146	3.2	11	2
Bratton	30	108	3.6	9	1
Sewell	7	44	6.3	10	0
Kubiak	15	35	2.3	10	0
Jackson	5	13	2.6	8	0

Broncos



49ers

The natural inclination is to characterize the 49ers as a passing team. The perception is that San Francisco relies on finesse.

In truth, however, the 49ers are so potent offensively because they are just as adept at running the football as they are at throwing it.

San Francisco likes to keep opposing offenses off the field, and the 49ers do that by controlling the football, much of it on the ground.

Though not as prolific as in 1988, when they led the NFC in rushing with 157.7 yards per game, the 49ers still ranked fifth in the conference at 122.9 yards per game on the ground in 1989, most of it from running backs Roger Craig and Tom Rathman. Craig and Rathman are bruising runners who wear down opponents. Both also seem to get stronger as the game goes on. Both are characterized by excellent acceleration and strong leg power. Hit them and they'll bounce outside and keep going.

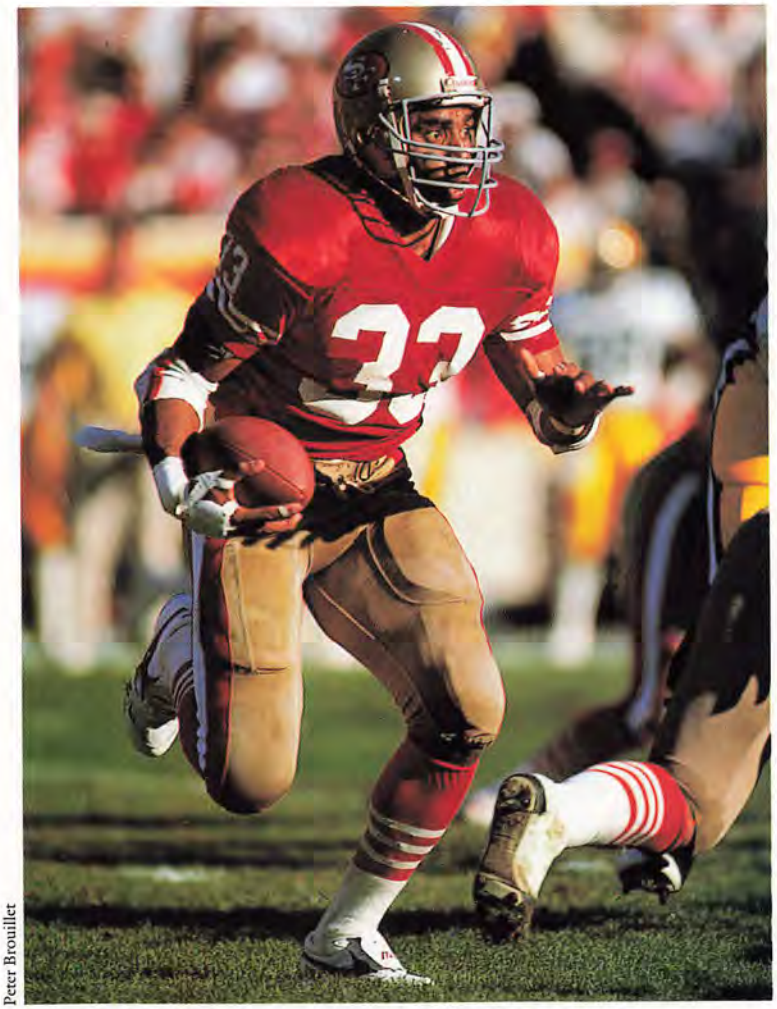
The high-stepping Craig, who can run inside or outside as well as anyone in the game, had an off year by his high standards, but he still managed his third 1,000-yard season in the last five years when he ran for 1,054 yards and six touchdowns. In the playoffs, the seventh-year veteran has quickened his pace, gaining 218 yards in the victories over the Vikings and Rams. Craig is a difficult runner to bring down; the Broncos are advised to gang tackle him to be successful.

Rathman is a prototypical fullback who is a punishing blocker, but he also ran for a career-high 305 yards during the regular season.

Not the scrambler he once was, quarterback Joe Montana still ran for 227 yards and three scores in 1989. And his backup, Steve Young, is a capable runner who gained 126 yards on the ground.

The 49ers' offensive line has been unfairly maligned at times. A versatile athlete, Guy McIntyre (6-3, 265) is an excellent pulling guard who earned his first Pro Bowl selection in 1989. The other guard is Bruce Collie (6-6, 275), and the starting tackles are Bubba Paris (6-6, 299) and Harris Barton (6-4, 280). The center is Jesse Sapolu (6-4, 260), who played guard for the Super Bowl XXIII champions. Sapolu took over at center for 13-year veteran Randy Cross, who retired following that game, and has been a big plus in the line's development.

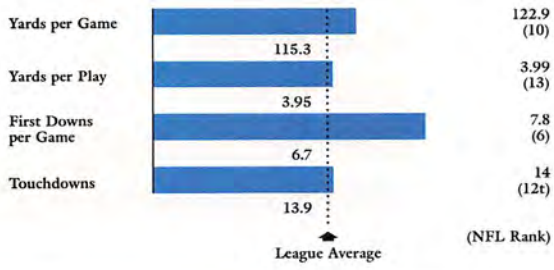
What makes this line unique is that Paris and Collie split time with Steve Wallace (6-5, 276) and Terry Tausch (6-5, 276), so the line never wears down. It also is yet another indication of this remarkable team's depth of talent.



Peter Brouillet

Roger Craig was a major reason why the 49ers led the NFL in total offense. He high-stepped his way to 1,054 yards on the ground—his third 1,000-yard season—and caught 49 passes for another 473 yards.

49ers



RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Craig	271	1,054	3.9	27	6
Rathman	79	305	3.9	13	1
Montana	49	227	4.6	19	3
Flagler	33	129	3.9	t29	1
Young	38	126	3.3	22	2
Sydney	9	56	6.2	18	0
Rice	5	33	6.6	17	0
Henderson	7	30	4.3	t11	1
Taylor	1	6	6.0	6	0
Helton	1	0	0.0	0	0

t—touchdown

Scouting Report

Passing Defense

Al Messerschmidt

The Broncos' pass defense was the league's third best in 1989, and one reason was rookie safety Steve Atwater. An imposing hitter, the first-round draft choice from Arkansas recorded 129 tackles and recovered a fumble this season. He also intercepted three passes.

Broncos

When asked to describe the Broncos' pass defense, an AFC offensive coordinator thought for a moment, then said, "Clever. They're very clever. They do a very good job of anticipating how you'll protect, then devise ways to beat it. They come at you from areas you don't expect them to come from."

This claim is supported by the fact that the Broncos had 11 different players collect at least one sack (the team total of 47 ranked fourth in the NFL). Nine had at least one interception (the team had 21), and four scored touchdowns.

Denver plays zone coverage almost exclusively in its 3-4 defense. The favored two-deep zone is effective against wide receivers, but it can be vulnerable to passes to the tight ends and running backs up the middle and down the sidelines. Play-action passes also may find success.

In Nickel situations, the Broncos make wholesale changes. Linebackers Karl Mecklenburg and Simon Fletcher move up to the line to play defensive ends. Ends Ron Holmes and Alphonso Carreker move inside as tackles. Nose tackle Greg Kragen and linebackers Michael Brooks and Rick Dennison go to the bench. They are replaced by Randy Robbins, Mark Haynes, and Kip Corrington, who join starting cornerbacks Tyrone Braxton and Wymon Henderson.

Rookie free safety Steve Atwater and strong safety Dennis Smith are the deep men. Atwater's first-year credentials include 129 tackles (a team-best 86 solo tackles), and three interceptions. Smith had 82 tackles, two interceptions, and three fumble recoveries.

When they are in the Nickel, the Broncos rarely blitz, preferring to play man-to-man defense instead, with the safeties zoning, or playing a combination coverage with the cornerbacks.

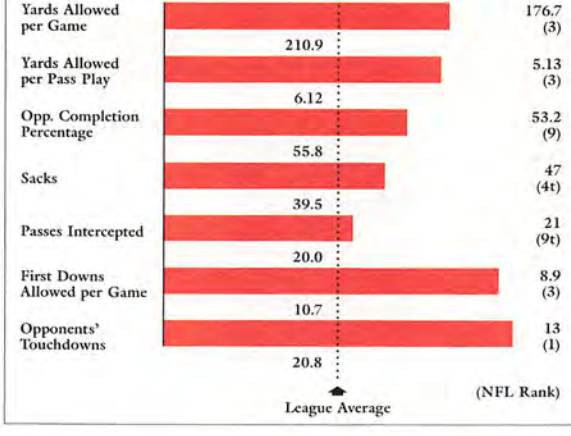
Fletcher is the premier pass rusher. He collected a career-high 12 sacks, three more than Holmes. Mecklenburg and Carreker combined for 13 more.

One of the keys to Denver's success today will be the play of Braxton and Henderson. Braxton, who had six interceptions for 103 yards, was credited with 111 tackles and defensed a team-high 14 passes. He and Henderson will receive their sternest test of the year from Jerry Rice and John Taylor, and in this matchup may be the key to the Broncos' chances.

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Braxton	6	103	17.2	t34	1
Henderson	3	58	19.3	25	0
Atwater	3	34	11.3	30	0
D. Smith	2	78	39.0	50	0
Robbins	2	18	9.0	t18	1
Munford	2	16	8.0	10	0
Corrington	1	8	8.0	8	0
Carrington	1	2	2.0	2	0
Dennison	1	1	1.0	1	0

t—touchdown

Broncos



49ers

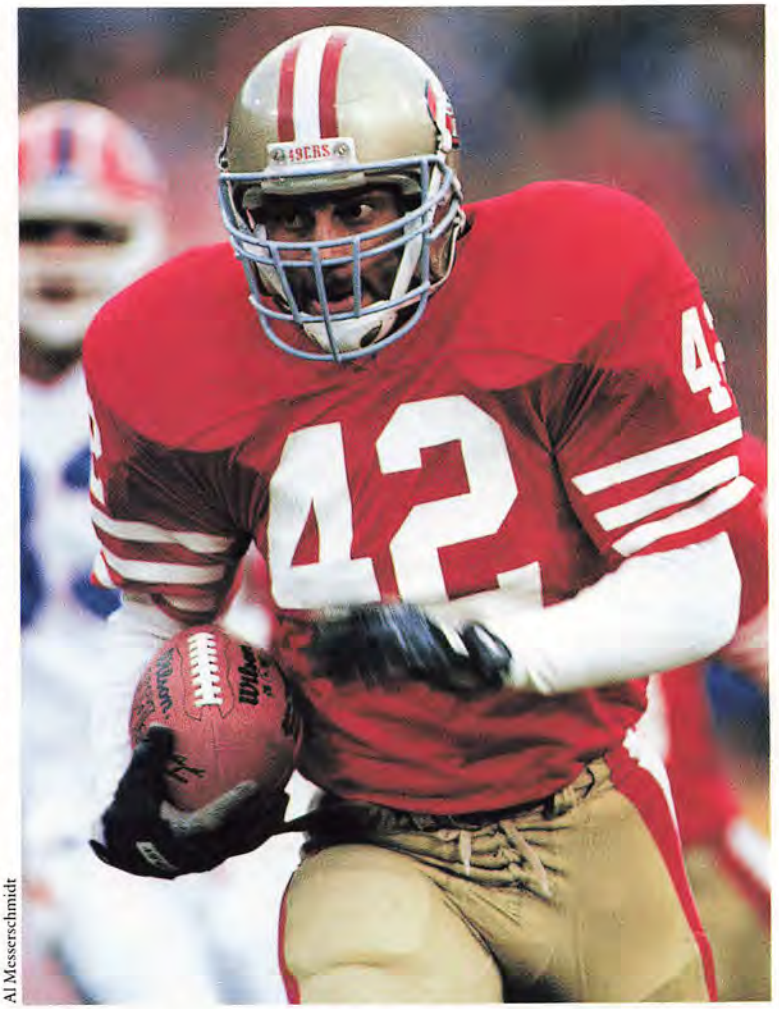
If San Francisco's two playoff victories are any indicator, safety Ronnie Lott may be primed to play the biggest game of his nine-year career. He intercepted a pass in each playoff game, one against the Rams and one against the Vikings that he returned 58 yards for a touchdown. Lott is the leader of the 49ers' defense; he sets the tone of the entire unit's play. He always has been a hard, punishing hitter. And as he's gotten older, he has gotten cagier, reading the quarterback better than perhaps any defensive back in the game.

Taking a cue from Lott in the hitting department is second-year strong safety Chet Brooks, who replaced injured starter Jeff Fuller. Left cornerback Darryl Pollard, in his third season, was the team's second-leading tackler with 79. Right cornerback Don Griffin defensed more passes, 17, than any other 49er during the season.

What Lott is to the secondary, linebacker Charles Haley is to the pass rush. Haley, big, strong, and quick, moves around on the line of scrimmage to keep offensive blockers off balance. Haley and left defensive end Pierce Holt tied for the team lead with 10½ sacks each, followed by right defensive end Kevin Fagan, who had seven. Larry Roberts (3½ sacks) shares time with Holt, while Daniel Stubbs (4½) rotates with Fagan. An incalculable boost was given to the pass rush when nose tackle Michael Carter returned to the San Francisco lineup in the NFC Championship Game. He had been in a cast since week eight with a sprained foot and saw limited action against the Rams. But even if he is not at full speed, he is a powerful presence.

Against Denver, the pass rushers will have to be careful not to come too far upfield and leave running lanes open for John Elway. If they can flush Elway out of the pocket, they still will have to contain him to the outside; Elway is at his most dangerous when he improvises passes on the run. Another concern is Broncos running back Steve Sewell, the leader among NFL running backs in average yards per reception.

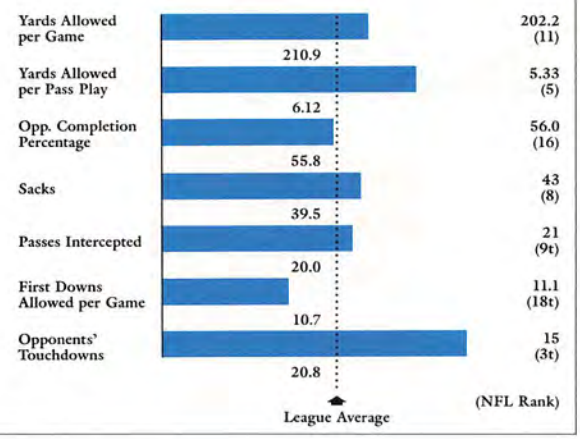
The 49ers are not a big blitzing team. They occasionally send Brooks on a blindside rush, but seem content to let Haley and the defensive linemen apply steady, constant pressure and to have Pollard and Griffin jam receivers at the line of scrimmage.



Al Messerschmidt

The leading interceptor in 49ers' history (48 for 617 yards), Ronnie Lott was voted to his eighth Pro Bowl this season. As usual, he was all over the field, intercepting five passes and breaking up eight more.

49ers



INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Lott	5	34	6.8	28	0
Brooks	3	31	10.3	19	0
Wright	2	37	18.5	23	0
Jackson	2	35	17.5	19	0
Griffin	2	6	3.0	3	0
Turner	1	42	42.0	42	0
Holmoe	1	23	23.0	23	0
McKyer	1	18	18.0	18	0
Romanowski	1	13	13.0	13	0
Pollard	1	12	12.0	12	0
Millen	1	10	10.0	10	0
DeLong	1	1	1.0	1	0

Scouting Report

Rushing Defense

Owen C. Shaw

A year ago, the Broncos ranked next to last in the NFL against the run. This year, they improved dramatically to sixth. Inside linebacker Karl Mecklenburg topped the club with 143 tackles and earned his fourth Pro Bowl selection.

Broncos

No discussion of the Broncos' defense is appropriate unless there is mention of Wade Phillips, who was hired as defensive coordinator following the 1988 season.

Phillips inherited a unit that had less-than-overwhelming statistical rankings in 1988: twenty-second overall, twenty-seventh against the run, twentieth in points allowed, and tied for twenty-fourth in the important takeaway category.

After a year under Phillips, the Broncos' numbers tell a revealing story: Denver's defense was the NFL's third-best overall, third against the pass and sixth against the run, allowed the fewest points in the league, and ranked, with a plus-11, behind only Philadelphia (24) and San Francisco (12) in turnover differential.

Phillips made these transformations by installing a scheme that has been characterized as very basic, yet sound in its philosophy, with emphasis on hard, sure tackling.

There also were several key personnel moves.

Alphonso Carreker (6-2, 272), Green Bay's first-round pick in 1984, was signed as a free agent. Ron Holmes (6-4, 266), Tampa Bay's first-round selection in 1985, was acquired in a trade. Both are starting defensive ends who bring size and strength to the front three.

Another free-agent acquisition was Wymon Henderson, who has started 17 games at right cornerback.

The draft yielded three players, including starting free safety Steve Atwater, a future superstar. The first-round draft pick from Arkansas is an imposing hitter and ballhawk (he had 129 tackles and three interceptions in 1989), and is a perfect complement to strong safety Dennis Smith, a three-time Pro Bowl player.

These changes have brought about a new-look defense. Only four players who started in Super Bowl XXII will be in the starting lineup today: nose tackle Greg Kragen, linebackers Karl Mecklenburg and Simon Fletcher, and Smith.

Using a 3-4 defense, the Broncos allowed the fewest rushing yards in the AFC and have allowed only one back to rush for more than 100 yards this season.

Although they show only three down linemen, they almost always send one of their excellent group of linebackers, and that usually is Fletcher.

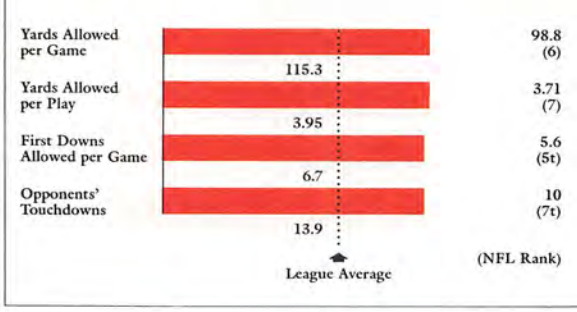
The heart of the rushing defense is Kragen, who has great lateral movement. Kragen was a running-down specialist, which probably explains why he ranked only tenth on the team in tackles (72). An indication of the kind of year he had is the fact that he was voted to the AFC Pro Bowl team.

Mecklenburg, another Pro Bowl choice, led the team in tackles with 143. On running downs, he usually lines up at right inside linebacker on the weak side.

In Atwater and Smith, the Broncos have two of the NFL's finest safeties. They are big-time hitters who offer excellent run support (Smith forced six fumbles during the regular season). The two safeties will be key performers in attempting to blunt the outside runs of the 49ers' Roger Craig.

Speedy third-year linebacker Michael Brooks, who starts at the left outside position next to the alternating Rick Dennison and Marc Munford, is another stalwart against the ground game.

Broncos



49ers One of the major reasons that San Francisco's defense plays so consistently is that it doesn't spend a whole lot of time on the field. This is true as a unit because Joe Montana is such a master at engineering long drives. It is true on an individual player basis because the 49ers rotate their players so frequently with situation substitutions. Almost all defensive players see action in any given game.

With that kind of freshness and depth, it's no wonder the 49ers ranked fourth in the NFL in total defense in 1989. The defense ranked third against the rush during the regular season and carried tremendous momentum into the playoffs, limiting Minnesota to 86 rushing yards and Los Angeles to only 26.

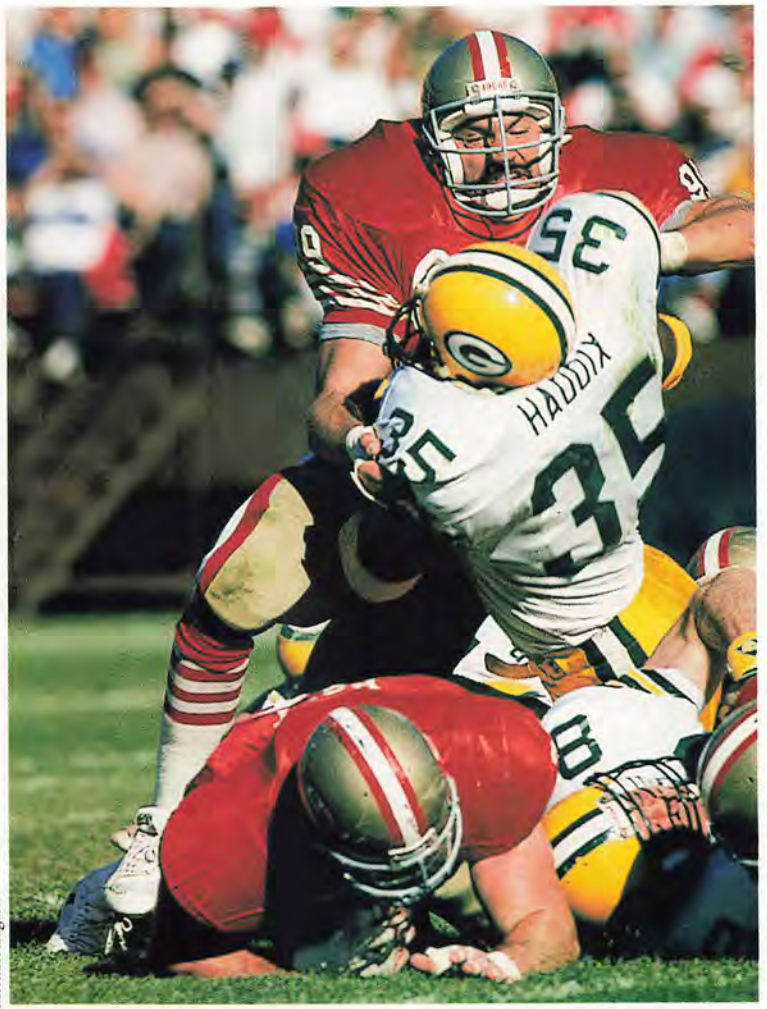
Stopping Denver's revitalized running game will be a priority. The rush has become a much more important part of the Broncos' offense, and shutting it down would severely unbalance the offensive attack. Two areas of primary concern to the 49ers are not allowing themselves to fall prey to Denver's trap plays, and denying John Elway the quarterback draw.

In order to neutralize the Broncos' traps, the pass rushers will have to be careful to read first and not commit to an all-out rush too soon. The 49ers' linemen also need to have good pursuit into the running hole from the backside. Even if they can avoid the trap blockers, they still must be alert for oncoming Melvin Bratton, a solid rookie running back who is an excellent lead blocker.

Which of the 49ers is assigned to watch Elway will depend on down and distance and the type of pass coverage. However, tendencies indicate he is more likely to run a planned draw on the 49ers' side of the field and with four wide receivers in the game. Elway's unplanned scrambles can be trouble, as can another Denver trademark—the shovel pass to Bobby Humphrey or Steve Sewell. If Humphrey still is hurting from rib injuries suffered in the AFC Championship Game, the 49ers will have to deal with the darting, slashing runs of veteran Sammy Winder.

Right inside linebacker Michael Walter was San Francisco's leading tackler for the third year in a row, with 103 in 1989, ahead of cornerback Darryl Pollard (79) and safety Chet Brooks (76). Defensive end Pierce Holt has been playing particularly well. Safety Ronnie Lott, voted to his eighth Pro Bowl in nine years, is as tough against the run as he is against the pass. Further assistance is provided by savvy veterans Matt Millen and Keena Turner, who coordinate together on the same side of the formation, as do Charles Haley and Walter. The versatile Haley can wreak havoc from an upright stance or as a down lineman. Linebacker Bill Romanowski, who made a critical interception in Super Bowl XXIII, is the single linebacker in the pass coverage package. Keith DeLong also contributes.

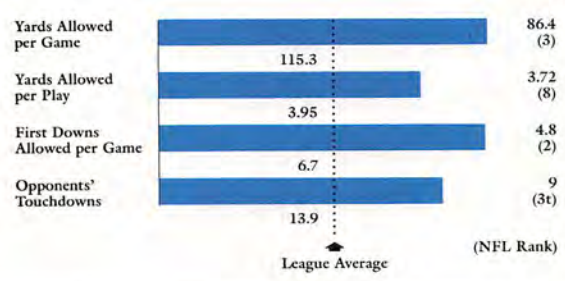
Another key area will be the middle of the line, where nose tackles Pete Kugler and Jim Burt (and Michael Carter if available) rotate. These veterans, along with their Super Bowl-hardened defensive linemates, may have a slight advantage over Denver's large and quick, but relatively young and inexperienced, offensive blockers.



Michael Zagaris

The 49ers' quick, tough defense is consistently underrated, and so is linebacker Michael Walter. The seven-year veteran led the team in tackles for the third successive season with 103, including 85 solos.

49ers



Scouting Report

Special Teams

Mike Moore

David Treadwell so impressed the Broncos' coaches in preseason that he was given the placekicking job over veteran Rich Karlis. The first-year player responded with a Pro Bowl season, leading the AFC with 120 points scored. He connected on 39-of-40 extra-point attempts and 27-of-33 field-goal tries.

Broncos

As a rookie out of Clemson in 1988, kicker David Treadwell battled incumbent Rich Karlis for the Broncos' placekicking job. Karlis eventually won the job in preseason, and Treadwell was cut.

In the 1989 offseason, Denver decided to trade with the Phoenix Cardinals for Treadwell. It was an important move. Karlis had contract problems and was cut, while Treadwell eventually made the team after a strong preseason performance. Treadwell had an outstanding regular season, making the AFC Pro Bowl team after leading the conference with 120 points on 39-of-40 extra points and 27-of-33 field goals. Treadwell is not a good long-distance kicker as he showed during the AFC Championship Game against Cleveland when he had a 54-yard try blocked by the Browns. However, he is exceptional inside 40 yards, connecting on 24-of-25 field-goal attempts this season.

The rest of the Broncos' special teams are solid, if not spectacular.

Punter Mike Horan ranked sixth in the AFC in 1989 with a 40.4 gross average. His net average of 34.3 was fourth in the AFC. Horan is most adept at putting kicks inside opponents' 20-yard lines (24 of his 77 punts ended up inside the 20).

At times, when Denver has a fourth-down and short-yardage situation inside its opponent's 40, look for the Broncos to have quarterback John Elway punt from the Shotgun. Elway had one punt for 34 yards this season (his backup Gary Kubiak punted twice).

Most of the punt-return duties are handled by the dangerous Vance Johnson. Johnson averaged 9.8 yards on 12 returns during the regular season.

Ken Bell (20.1-yard average) and Darren Carrington (25.3) return kickoffs. Bell's long return in 1989 was 33 yards, Carrington's 68.

Denver's coverage teams finished at opposite ends of the spectrum this season. The kickoff coverage unit ranked fourth in the NFL with an outstanding 17.4-yard average. Conversely, the punt coverage team was very poor, finishing last in the AFC and twenty-seventh in the NFL with an average of 13.2 yards per return.

Linebackers Scott Curtis and Tim Lucas, and safety Kip Corrington are players to watch on the coverage teams.

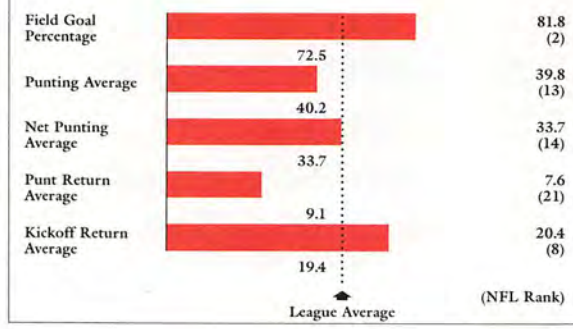
PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	Blk.
Horan	77	3,111	40.4	63	0
Elway	1	34	34.0	34	0
Kubiak	2	43	21.5	29	0

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Bell	21	3	143	6.8	24	0
Johnson	12	6	118	9.8	34	0
Nattiel	9	0	77	8.6	38	0
Woods	2	0	6	3.0	11	0
Carrington	1	0	0	0.0	0	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Bell	30	602	20.1	33	0
Carrington	6	152	25.3	68	0
Humphrey	4	86	21.5	29	0
Bratton	2	19	9.5	10	0
Woods	1	17	17.0	17	0

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
Treadwell	3/3	13/14	8/8	3/7	0/1	27/33

Broncos



49ers

With all the attention that the San Francisco offense and defense gets, the 49ers' special teams often are overlooked. But that isn't to say that they aren't talented.

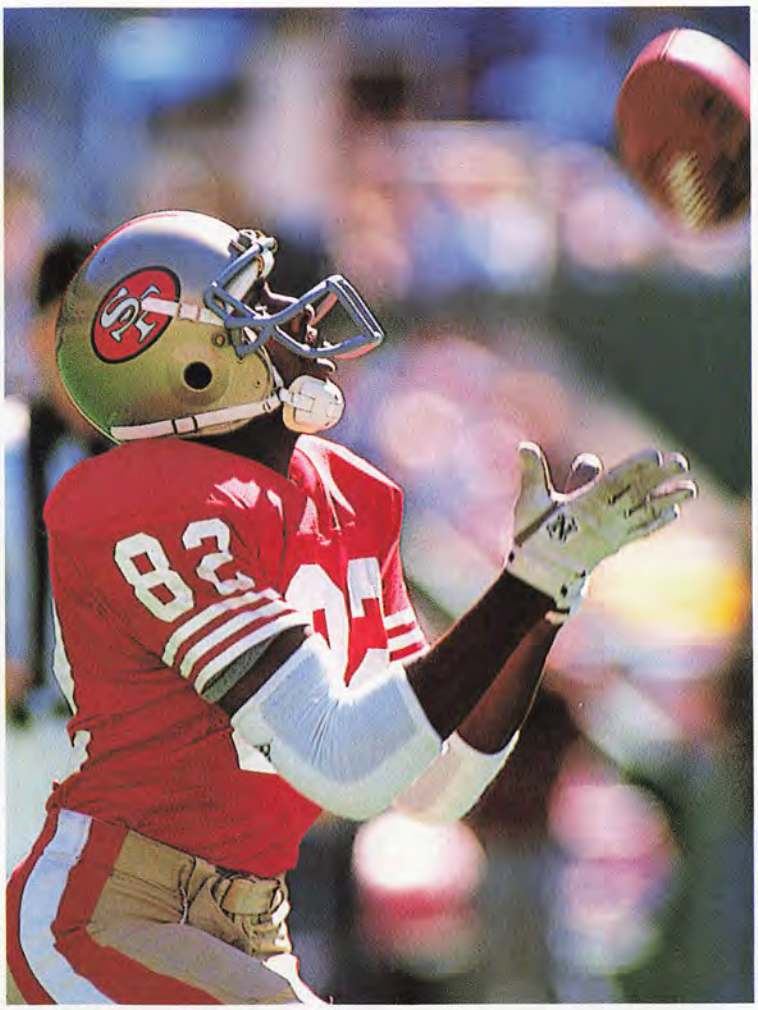
Placekicker Mike Cofer led the NFL with 136 points in 1989. This followed his rookie year when he led the NFC in scoring with 121 points. Cofer connected on 49-of-51 extra points and on 29-of-36 field goals this season. His 29 field goals broke the 49ers' franchise record of 27, which he set last year. And his string of 17 consecutive field goals made (eight at the end of the 1988 season and nine to start this season) set another club mark. Cofer's strength lies in his accuracy inside 40 yards. He hit on 19 of his 20 attempts inside 40 yards during the regular season, but was only 10 of 16 from farther out. His long kick was from 47 yards (he also had a 52-yard effort in 1988); in his career, he has connected on only one of six attempts of 50 yards or more.

Punt returner John Taylor has the ability to break a big play. Taylor, who was named to last season's NFC Pro Bowl team as a kick returner, finished fourth in the NFC (and fifth in the NFL) in punt returns in 1989 with an 11.6-yard average. He didn't score on a return this season, but he did have two touchdowns in 1988. This may be an area the 49ers can exploit because the Broncos ranked twenty-seventh in the NFL in punt-return coverage, giving up an average of 13.2 yards.

The 49ers' kickoff-return duties are handled by reserve running backs Terrence Flagler and Spencer Tillman. Flagler (who averaged 20.1 yards on 32 returns in 1989) and Tillman (20.6 on 10 returns, including one of 60 yards) both have better-than-average speed and are steady, if not spectacular, return men.

Punter Barry Helton, who punted an NFL-low 55 times in 1989, averaged 40.5 yards a punt, eighth best in the NFC. Helton's net average of 31.2 yards a punt ranked twenty-sixth in the league.

San Francisco's kickoff coverage unit tied for tenth best in the NFL in 1989, giving up an average return of 18.9 yards.

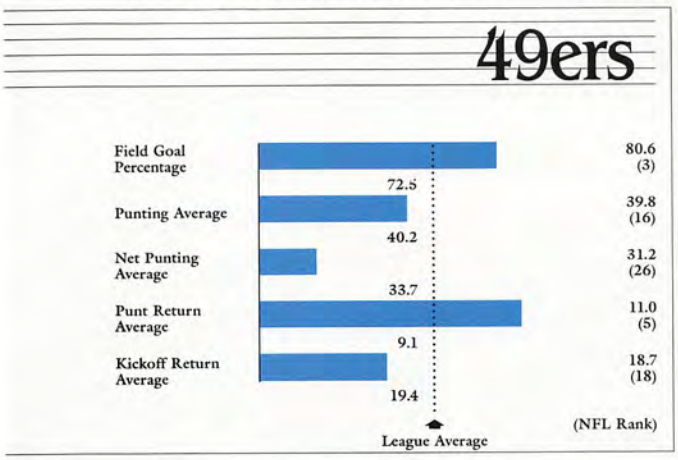


Al Tielemans

The punt coverage team had some problems, finishing twenty-second in the league with a 10.3-yard average per return.

Cornerback Darryl Pollard (22 special teams tackles in 1989) and linebacker Steve Hendrickson (10) are the players to watch on the coverage teams.

John Taylor was double trouble for 49ers opponents this year. As a wide receiver he caught 60 passes for 1,077 yards and 10 touchdowns. As a punt returner he was fifth in the league with an 11.6 average.



PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	Blk.
Helton	55	2,226	40.5	56	1
PUNT RETURNS	**No.**	**FC**	**Yds.**	**Avg.**	**Long**	**TD**
Taylor	36	20	417	11.6	37	0
Griffin	1	0	9	9.0	9	0
Greer	1	0	3	3.0	3	0
Romanowski	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
KICKOFF RETURNS	**No.**	**Yds.**	**Avg.**	**Long**	**TD**
Flagler	32	643	20.1	41	0
Tillman	10	206	20.6	60	0
Sydney	3	16	5.3	16	0
Taylor	2	51	25.5	27	0
Henderson	2	21	10.5	13	0
Greer	1	17	17.0	17	0
Jackson	1	0	0.0	0	0
FIELD GOALS	**1-19**	**20-29**	**30-39**	**40-49**	**50+**	**Total**
Cofer	3/3	8/8	8/9	10/15	0/1	29/36

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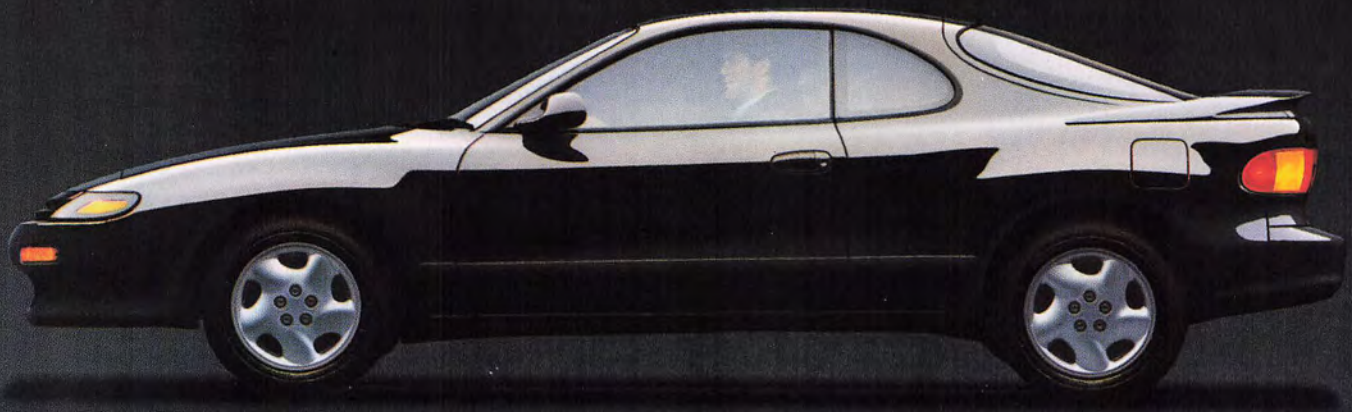

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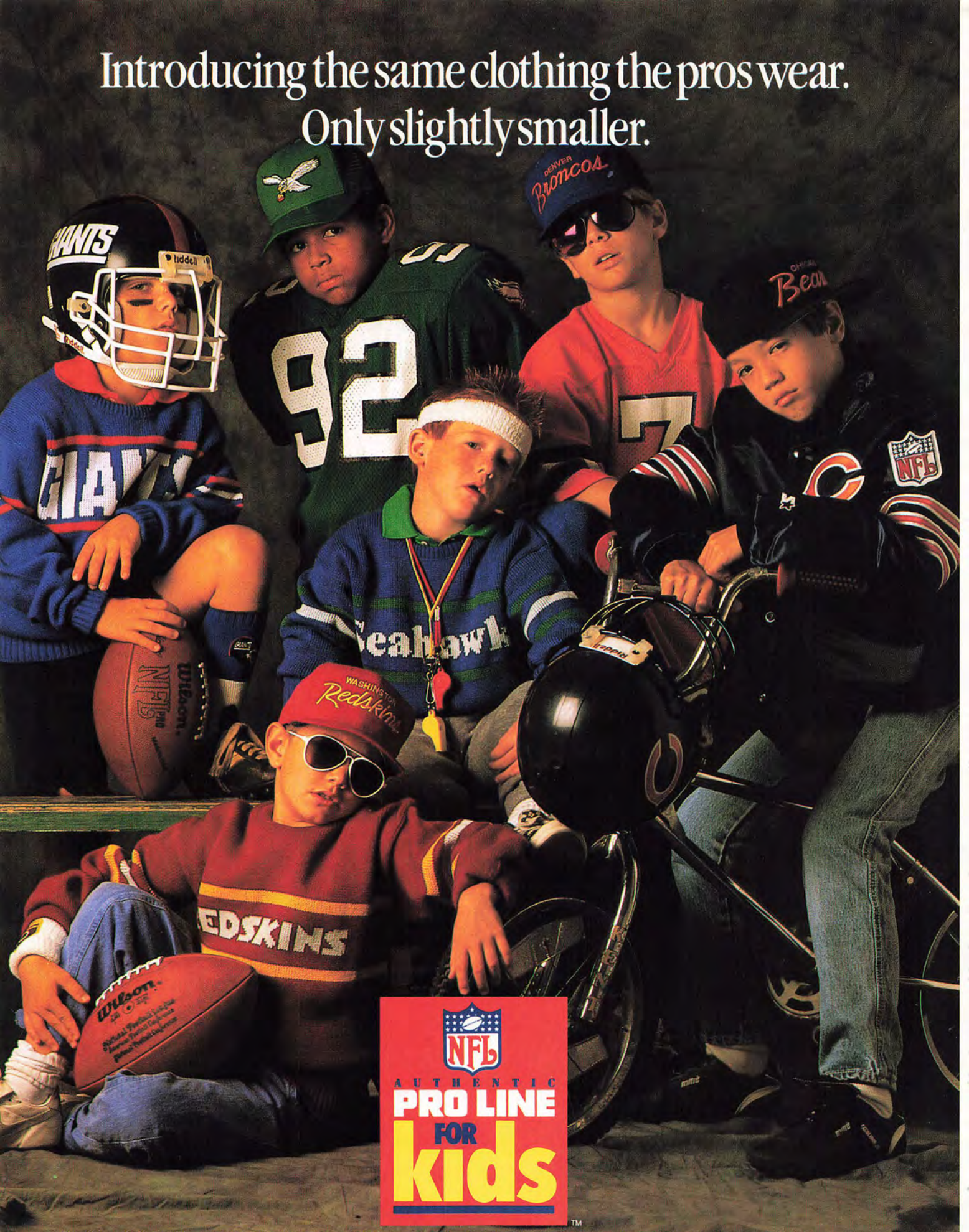
Broncos

YEAR	DRAFT (29)	TRADE (6)	FREE AGENTS (12)
1980 8-8 4th, AFC West	G-C Keith Bishop (6)		
1981 10-6 2nd, AFC West	S Dennis Smith (1) T Ken Lanier (5)		
1982 2-7 12th, AFC Regular Season	RB Sammy Winder (5)		LB Rick Dennison
1983 9-8 3rd, AFC West	QB Gary Kubiak (8) LB Karl Mecklenburg (12)	QB John Elway (from Baltimore)	
1984 13-4 1st, AFC West	DE-NT Andre Townsend (2) S Randy Robbins (4) TE Clarence Kay (7)		
1985 11-5 2nd, AFC West	RB-WR Steve Sewell (1) WR Vance Johnson (2A) LB Simon Fletcher (2B)		NT Greg Kragen
1986 13-6 AFC Champions	G Jim Juriga (4) TE Orson Mobley (6A) WR Mark Jackson (6B) LB Bruce Klostermann (8)	CB Mark Haynes (from N.Y. Giants)	RB-WR Ken Bell P Mike Horan
1987 12-5-1 AFC Champions	WR Ricky Nattiel (1) LB Michael Brooks (3) LB Marc Munford (4) CB Tyrone Braxton (12)		C Keith Kartz LB Tim Lucas
1988 8-8 2nd, AFC West	T Gerald Perry (2) TE Pat Kelly (7A)	S Kip Corrington (from Detroit) C Mike Ruether (from Phoenix)	RB Jeff Alexander
1989 13-5 AFC Champions	S Steve Atwater (1) G Doug Widell (2A) DE Warren Powers (2B) CB Darren Carrington (5) RB Melvin Bratton (7) G Monte Smith (9A) RB Bobby Humphrey (Supp. 1)	DE Ron Holmes (from Tampa Bay) K David Treadwell (from Phoenix)	DE Alphonso Carreker LB Scott Curtis CB Wymon Henderson DE-NT Brad Henke WR Michael Young

49ers

YEAR	DRAFT (32)	TRADE (1)	FREE AGENTS (14)
1979 2-14 4th, NFC West	QB Joe Montana (3)		
1980 6-10 3rd, NFC West	LB Keena Turner (2)		
1981 16-3 Super Bowl XVI Champions	S Ronnie Lott (1) CB Eric Wright (2B)		WR Mike Wilson
1982 3-6 11th, NFC Regular Season	T Bubba Paris (2)		
1983 11-7 1st, NFC West	RB Roger Craig (2) C Jesse Sapolu (11)		
1984 18-1 Super Bowl XIX Champions	G Guy McIntyre (3) NT Michael Carter (5A)		LB Michael Walter
1985 10-7 2nd, NFC West	WR Jerry Rice (1) G-T Bruce Collie (5)		
1986 10-6-1 1st, NFC West	DE Larry Roberts (2) RB Tom Rathman (3A) CB Tim McKyer (3B) WR John Taylor (3C) LB Charles Haley (4A) T Steve Wallace (4B) DE Kevin Fagan (4C) CB Don Griffin (6)		DE Pete Kugler
1987 13-3 1st, NFC West	T Harris Barton (1A) RB Terrence Flagler (1B)	QB Steve Young (from Tampa Bay)	C-G Chuck Thomas TE Brent Jones
1988 13-6 Super Bowl XXIII Champions	DE Daniel Stubbs (2A) DE Pierce Holt (2B) LB Bill Romanowski (3) P Barry Helton (4) S Chet Brooks (11)		K Mike Cofer CB Darryl Pollard
1989 16-2 NFC Champions	LB Keith DeLong (1) TE Wesley Walls (2) FB Keith Henderson (3) S Johnny Jackson (5) LB Steve Hendrickson (6) LB Antonio Goss (12A)		QB Steve Bono RB Spencer Tillman LB Matt Millen NT Jim Burt G Terry Tausch TE Jamie Williams WR Mike Sherrard

Introducing the same clothing the pros wear. Only slightly smaller.



Finally, an NFL Pro Line for kids. The very same clothing worn on the field by the pros will soon be available for the pro of slightly smaller proportions. Look for the label in a store near you or write to NFL Properties, 410 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022, attention: Carol Lucas.

Some of the Players that brought you this ad.

Zeke Mowatt

Jeff Rutledge

Stacy Robinson

Bobby Butler

Scott Campbell

Rick Donnelly

Wayne Radloss

Skip McClendon

Leo Barker

Robert Jackson

Jim Breech

Ken Moyer

Eric Ball

Brent Jones

Steve Wallace

Guy McIntyre

Mike Cofer

Jesse Sapolu

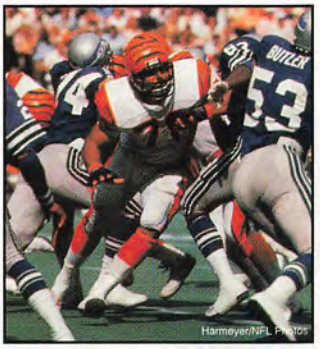
Bubba Paris

Spencer Tillman

Buffalo Bills' Bible Study

THE A.I.A. BART STARR AWARD

1990 WINNER



ANTHONY MUÑOZ

"Knowing Jesus Christ has given me a clearer picture of my purpose and motivation as an athlete, and has allowed me to increase my intensity as I perform to praise and worship the Lord."

1989 WINNER

STEVE LARGENT

"Many people measure winning and success by the scoreboard, but I have found the only real basis for success is through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ."

Today's Heroes: Models for Tomorrow's Leaders.

Bart Starr, a two time Super Bowl MVP, exemplified outstanding character and leadership as a player, as well as in his family and community.

The Athletes in Action - Bart Starr Award is given to a National Football League Player who presently stands as an example of such high moral character. His life displays the all-around leadership skills of a champion and he maintains a respect from his peers that reaches far beyond his accomplishments on the field. The recipient of this award could only be determined by the athletes who daily witness such rare qualities. Therefore, the award is voted on by the NFL players themselves.

There are many players and coaches in the NFL who are outstanding leaders in their community and deeply committed to their family. It is important to recognize these people in a society where skeptics say there are no positive role models for our youth. Athletes in Action is making this possible through the annual presentation of the Bart Starr award. These men (today's heroes) truly model positive values for tomorrow's leaders.

AIA is made up of athletes who share a personal relationship with Christ. If you are interested in beginning a relationship with Christ, or growing deeper in your faith, write AIA and we'll send you a simple outline of how you can know Christ personally and a *Gospel of John* booklet. In addition, Anthony Muñoz would like to send you some steps to take toward maturing as a Christian, along with an autographed picture.

Yes! Please send me the Outline.

- KNOW CHRIST PERSONALLY
- GOSPEL OF JOHN
- ANTHONY MUÑOZ'S PICTURE AND LETTER

Name

Address

City State Zip

Athletes in Action

12084 Timberlake Dr
Cincinnati, Ohio 45249

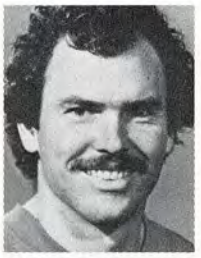
Broncos

Players and Staff

Pat Bowlen
President / CEO

John Beake
General Manager

Dan Reeves
V.P. / Head Coach



2 *Mike Horan*
Punter

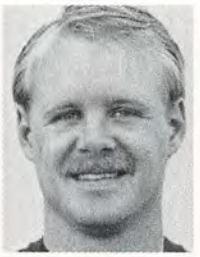
7 *John Elway*
Quarterback

8 *Gary Kubiak*
Quarterback

9 *David Treadwell*
Kicker

23 *Sammy Winder*
Running Back

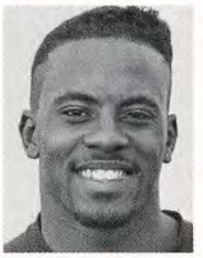
24 *Wymon Henderson*
Cornerback



25 *Kip Corrington*
Safety

26 *Bobby Humphrey*
Running Back

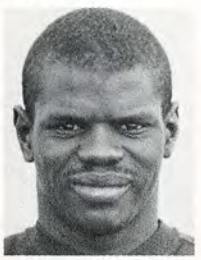
27 *Steve Atwater*
Safety



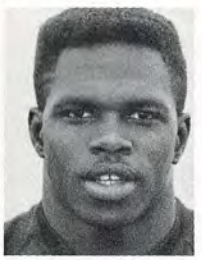
29 *Darren Carrington*
Cornerback

30 *Steve Sewell*
Running Back

32 *Melvin Bratton*
Running Back



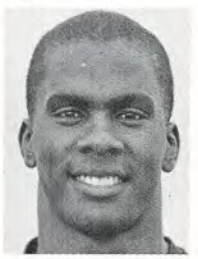
34 *Tyrone Braxton*
Cornerback



35 *Ken Bell*
Running Back

36 *Mark Haynes*
Cornerback

40 *Jeff Alexander*
Running Back



48 *Randy Robbins*
Safety

49 *Dennis Smith*
Safety

51 *Marc Munford*
Linebacker

54 *Keith Bishop*
Guard / Center

55 *Rick Dennison*
Linebacker

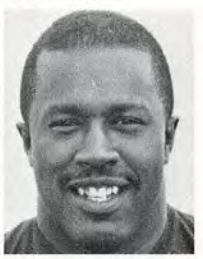
56 *Michael Brooks*
Linebacker

57 *Mike Ruether*
Center

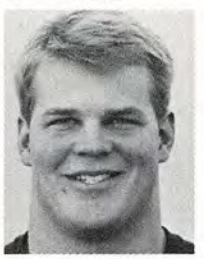
58 *Scott Curtis*
Linebacker

59 *Tim Lucas*
Linebacker

60 *Gerald Perry*
Tackle



61 *Andre Townsend*
Defensive End



65 *Monte Smith*
Guard

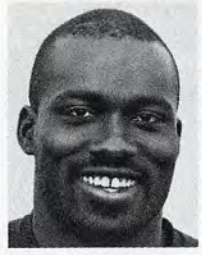
66 *Jim Juriga*
Guard

67 *Doug Widell*
Guard

68 *Brad Henke*
Defensive End

71 *Greg Kragen*
Nose Tackle

72 *Keith Kartz*
Center



73 *Simon Fletcher*
Linebacker

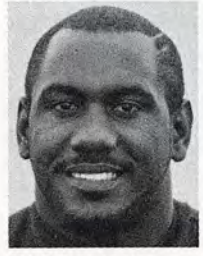
76 *Ken Lanier*
Tackle

77 *Karl Mecklenburg*
Linebacker

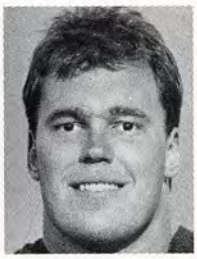
80 *Mark Jackson*
Wide Receiver

82 *Vance Johnson*
Wide Receiver

83 *Michael Young*
Wide Receiver



84 *Ricky Nattiel*
Wide Receiver

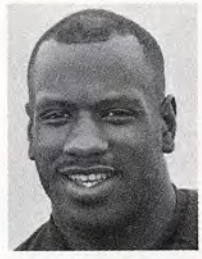


87 *Pat Kelly*
Tight End

88 *Clarence Kay*
Tight End

89 *Orson Mobley*
Tight End

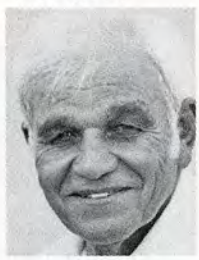
90 *Ron Holmes*
Defensive End



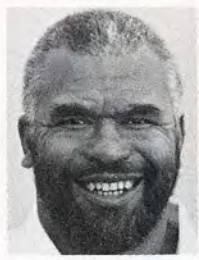
91 *Warren Powers*
Defensive End

92 *Alphonso Carreker*
Defensive End

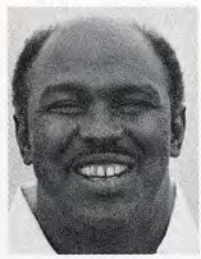
97 *Bruce Klostermann*
Linebacker



Marvin Bass
Assistant Coach



Barney Chavous
Assistant Coach



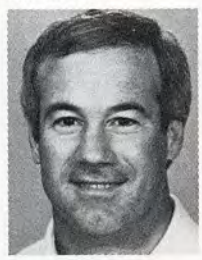
Mo Forte
Assistant Coach

Chan Gailey
Assistant Coach

George Henshaw
Assistant Coach

Earl Leggett
Assistant Coach

Pete Mangurian
Assistant Coach

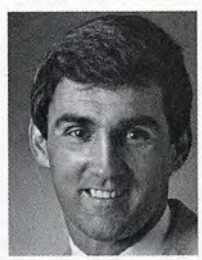


Al Miller
Assistant Coach

Mike Nolan
Assistant Coach

Wade Phillips
Assistant Coach

Harold Richardson
Assistant Coach



Mike Shanahan
Assistant Coach

Charlie Waters
Assistant Coach

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Once again, American Airlines is proud to serve as the Official Airline of the Super Bowl. As always, we're determined to maintain the highest standards of quality in our industry, to make every flight something special for every passenger, to outperform our toughest competitors. Because we believe that's what it means to be the star airline of the Super Bowl year after year.

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Denver Broncos

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Birthdate	NFL Exp.	College
40	Alexander, Jeff	RB	6-0	232	1/15/65	1	Southern University
27	Atwater, Steve	S	6-3	217	10/28/66	R	Arkansas
35	Bell, Ken	RB-WR	5-10	190	11/16/64	4	Boston College
54	Bishop, Keith	C-G	6-3	290	3/10/57	9	Baylor
32	Bratton, Melvin	RB	6-1	225	2/2/65	R	Miami
34	Braxton, Tyrone	CB	5-11	185	12/12/64	3	North Dakota State
56	Brooks, Michael	LB	6-1	235	3/2/64	3	LSU
92	Carreker, Alphonso	DE	6-6	272	5/25/62	6	Florida State
29	Carrington, Darren	CB	6-1	189	10/10/66	R	Northern Arizona
25	Corrington, Kip	S	6-0	175	4/12/65	1	Texas A&M
58	Curtis, Scott	LB	6-1	230	12/26/64	2	New Hampshire
55	Dennison, Rick	LB	6-3	220	6/22/58	8	Colorado State
7	Elway, John	QB	6-3	215	6/28/60	7	Stanford
73	Fletcher, Simon	LB	6-6	240	2/18/62	5	Houston
36	Haynes, Mark	CB	5-11	195	11/6/58	10	Colorado
24	Henderson, Wymon	CB	5-10	186	12/15/61	3	Nevada-Las Vegas
68	Henke, Brad	DE-NT	6-3	275	4/10/66	R	Arizona
90	Holmes, Ron	DE	6-4	265	8/26/63	5	Washington
2	Horan, Mike	P	5-11	190	2/1/59	5	Long Beach State
26	Humphrey, Bobby	RB	6-1	201	10/11/66	R	Alabama
80	Jackson, Mark	WR	5-10	180	7/23/63	4	Purdue
82	Johnson, Vance	WR	5-11	185	3/13/63	5	Arizona
66	Juriga, Jim	G	6-6	275	9/12/64	2	Illinois
72	Kartz, Keith	C	6-4	270	5/5/63	3	California
88	Kay, Clarence	TE	6-2	237	7/30/61	6	Georgia
87	Kelly, Pat	TE	6-6	252	10/29/65	2	Syracuse
97	Klostermann, Bruce	LB	6-4	232	4/17/63	3	South Dakota State
71	Kragen, Greg	NT	6-3	265	3/4/62	5	Utah State
8	Kubiak, Gary	QB	6-0	192	8/15/61	7	Texas A&M
76	Lanier, Ken	T	6-3	290	7/8/59	9	Florida State
59	Lucas, Tim	LB	6-3	230	4/3/61	3	California
77	Mecklenburg, Karl	LB	6-3	240	9/1/60	7	Minnesota
89	Mobley, Orson	TE	6-5	259	3/4/63	4	Salem College
51	Munford, Marc	LB	6-2	231	2/14/65	3	Nebraska
84	Nattiel, Ricky	WR	5-9	180	1/25/66	3	Florida
60	Perry, Gerald	T	6-6	305	11/12/64	2	Southern University
91	Powers, Warren	DE	6-6	287	2/4/65	R	Maryland
48	Robbins, Randy	S	6-2	189	9/14/63	6	Arizona
57	Ruether, Mike	C	6-4	275	9/20/62	4	Texas
30	Sewell, Steve	RB-WR	6-3	210	4/2/63	5	Oklahoma
49	Smith, Dennis	S	6-3	200	2/3/59	9	USC
65	Smith, Monte	G	6-5	270	4/24/67	R	North Dakota
61	Townsend, Andre	DE-NT	6-3	265	10/8/62	6	Mississippi
9	Treadwell, David	K	6-1	175	2/27/67	1	Clemson
67	Widell, Doug	G	6-4	287	9/23/66	R	Boston College
23	Winder, Sammy	RB	5-11	203	7/15/59	8	Southern Mississippi
83	Young, Michael	WR	6-1	183	2/21/62	5	UCLA

R—A first-year player who has not previously been in an NFL training camp.

THREE-DEEP LINEUPS

OFFENSE			
WR	**—82 Vance Johnson**	84 Ricky Nattiel	30 Steve Sewell
LT	**—60 Gerald Perry**	66 Jim Juriga	
LG	**—66 Jim Juriga**	54 Keith Bishop	
C	**—72 Keith Kartz**	57 Mike Ruether	
RG	**—67 Doug Widell**	65 Monte Smith	
RT	**—76 Ken Lanier**	66 Jim Juriga	
TE	**—88 Clarence Kay**	89 Orson Mobley	
WR	**—80 Mark Jackson**	83 Michael Young	35 Ken Bell
QB	**— 7 John Elway**	8 Gary Kubiak	
FB	**—32 Melvin Bratton**	40 Jeff Alexander	
RB	**—26 Bobby Humphrey**	23 Sammy Winder	30 Steve Sewell
	—35 Ken Bell		
DEFENSE			
LE	**—92 Alphonso Carreker**	91 Warren Powers	
NT	**—71 Greg Kragen**	68 Brad Henke	
RE	**—90 Ron Holmes**	61 Andre Townsend	
LOLB	**—56 Michael Brooks**	59 Tim Lucas	
LILB	**—51 Marc Munford**	55 Rick Dennison	58 Scott Curtis
RILB	**—77 Karl Mecklenburg**	55 Rick Dennison	
ROLB	**—73 Simon Fletcher**	97 Bruce Klostermann	
LCB	**—34 Tyrone Braxton**	36 Mark Haynes	
RCB	**—24 Wymon Henderson**	29 Darren Carrington	
SS	**—49 Dennis Smith**	48 Randy Robbins	
FS	**—27 Steve Atwater**	25 Kip Corrington	
SPECIALISTS			
P	**— 2 Mike Horan**		
K	**— 9 David Treadwell**		
H	**— 8 Gary Kubiak**	2 Mike Horan	
PC	**—54 Keith Bishop**	72 Keith Kartz	
KC	**—54 Keith Bishop**	72 Keith Kartz	
PR	**—82 Vance Johnson**	84 Ricky Nattiel	
KR	**—35 Ken Bell**	29 Darren Carrington	

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DENVER BRONCOS

OFFENSE

82	Vance Johnson	WR
60	Gerald Perry	LT
66	Jim Juriga	LG
72	Keith Kartz	C
67	Doug Widell	RG
76	Ken Lanier	RT
88	Clarence Kay	TE
80	Mark Jackson	WR
7	John Elway	QB
32	Melvin Bratton	RB
26	Bobby Humphrey	RB

DEFENSE

92	Alphonso Carreker	LE
71	Greg Kragen	NT
90	Ron Holmes	RE
56	Michael Brooks	LOLB
51	Marc Munford	LILB
77	Karl Mecklenburg	RILB
73	Simon Fletcher	ROLB
34	Tyrone Braxton	LCB
24	Wymon Henderson	RCB
49	Dennis Smith	SS
27	Steve Atwater	FS

BRONCOS NUMERICAL ROSTER

2	Mike Horan	P	59	Tim Lucas	LB
7	John Elway	QB	60	Gerald Perry	T
8	Gary Kubiak	QB	61	A. Townsend	DE-NT
9	David Treadwell	K	65	Monte Smith	G
23	Sammy Winder	RB	66	Jim Juriga	T
24	Wymon Henderson	CB	67	Doug Widell	G
25	Kip Corrington	S	68	Brad Henke	DE-NT
26	Bobby Humphrey	RB	71	Greg Kragen	NT
27	Steve Atwater	S	72	Keith Kartz	C
29	Darren Carrington	CB	73	Simon Fletcher	LB
30	Steve Sewell	RB-WR	76	Ken Lanier	T
32	Melvin Bratton	RB	77	Karl Mecklenburg	LB
34	Tyrone Braxton	CB	80	Mark Jackson	WR
35	Ken Bell	RB	82	Vance Johnson	WR
36	Mark Haynes	CB	83	Michael Young	WR
40	Jeff Alexander	RB	84	Ricky Nattiel	WR
48	Randy Robbins	S	87	Pat Kelly	TE
49	Dennis Smith	S	88	Clarence Kay	TE
51	Marc Munford	LB	89	Orson Mobley	TE
54	Keith Bishop	C-G	90	Ron Holmes	DE
55	Rick Dennison	LB	91	Warren Powers	DE
56	Michael Brooks	LB	92	Alphonso Carreker	DE
57	Mike Ruether	C	97	Bruce Klostermann	LB
58	Scott Curtis	LB			

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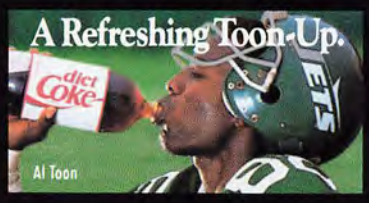

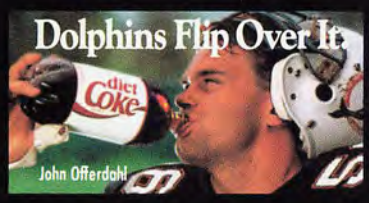

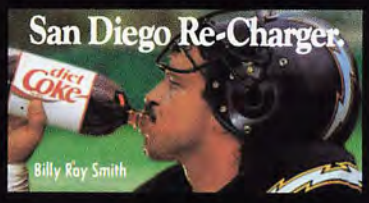

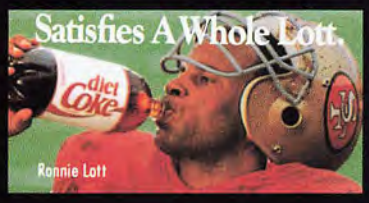

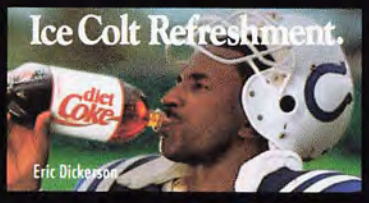

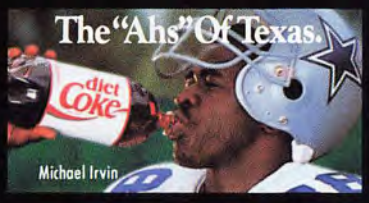

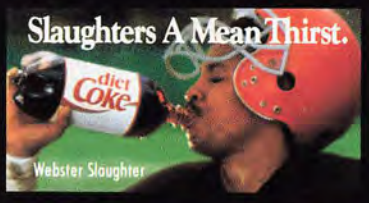

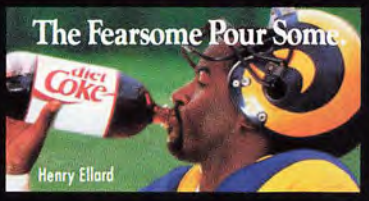

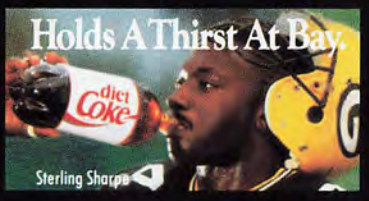

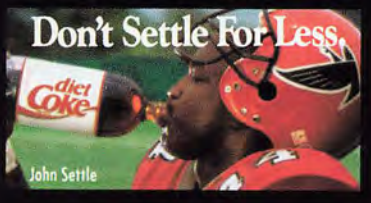

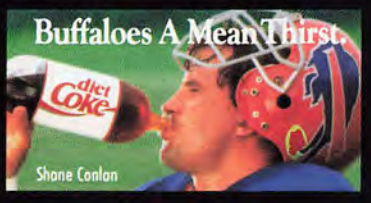

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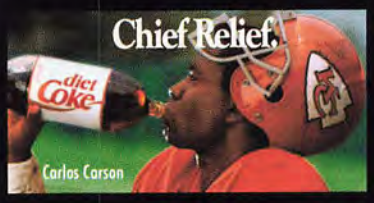

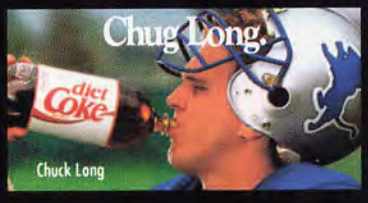

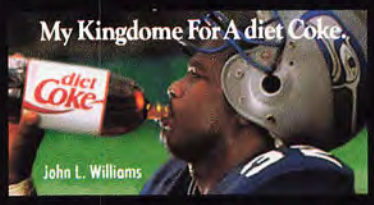

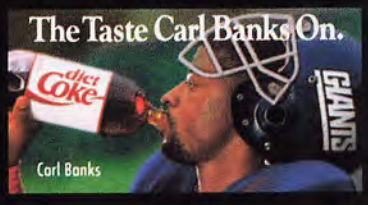

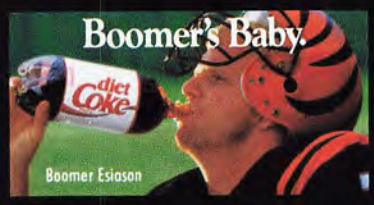

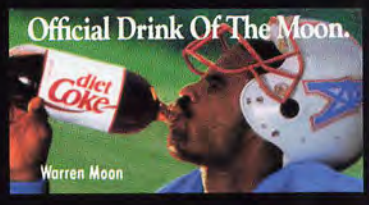

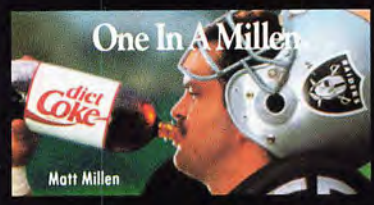

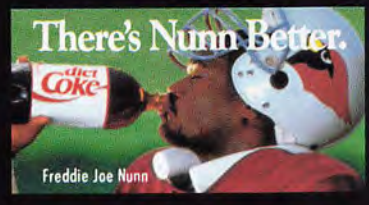

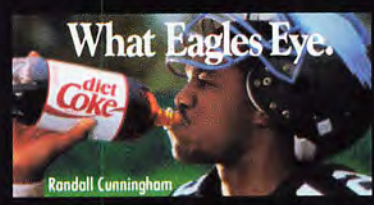

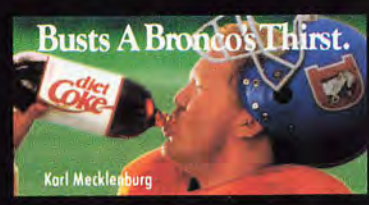

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SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

OFFENSE

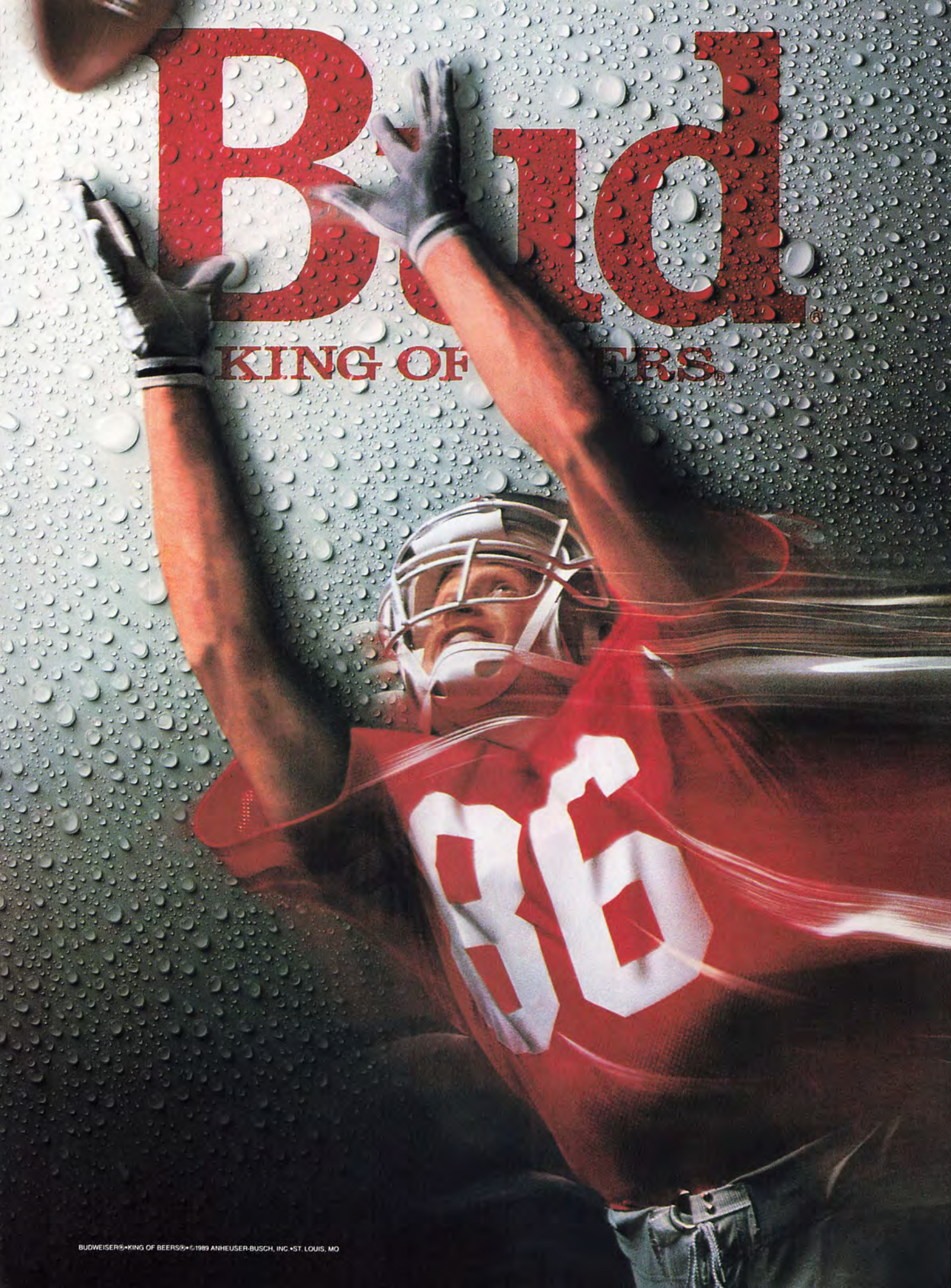
82	John Taylor	WR
77	Bubba Paris	LT
62	Guy McIntyre	LG
61	Jesse Sapolu	C
69	Bruce Collie	RG
79	Harris Barton	RT
84	Brent Jones	TE
80	Jerry Rice	WR
16	Joe Montana	QB
44	Tom Rathman	RB
33	Roger Craig	RB

DEFENSE

78	Pierce Holt	LE
67	Pete Kugler	NT
75	Kevin Fagan	RE
94	Charles Haley	LOLB
54	Matt Millen	LILB
99	Michael Walter	RILB
58	Keena Turner	ROLB
26	Darryl Pollard	LCB
29	Don Griffin	RCB
31	Chet Brooks	SS
42	Ronnie Lott	FS

49ERS NUMERICAL ROSTER

6	Mike Cofer	K	62	Guy McIntyre	G
8	Steve Young	QB	64	Jim Burt	NT
9	Barry Helton	P	66	Terry Tausch	G
13	Steve Bono	QB	67	Pete Kugler	NT
16	Joe Montana	QB	69	Bruce Collie	G-T
21	Eric Wright	CB	74	Steve Wallace	T
22	Tim McKyer	CB	75	Kevin Fagan	DE
23	Spencer Tillman	RB	77	Bubba Paris	T
26	Darryl Pollard	CB	78	Pierce Holt	DE
29	Don Griffin	CB	79	Harris Barton	T
30	Keith Henderson	RB	80	Jerry Rice	WR
31	Chet Brooks	S	81	Jamie Williams	TE
32	Terrence Flagler	RB	82	John Taylor	WR
33	Roger Craig	RB	84	Brent Jones	TE
40	Johnny Jackson	S	85	Mike Wilson	WR
42	Ronnie Lott	S	88	Mike Sherrard	WR
44	Tom Rathman	RB	89	Wesley Walls	TE
53	Bill Romanowski	LB	91	Larry Roberts	DE
54	Matt Millen	LB	94	Charles Haley	LB
56	Steve Hendrickson	LB	95	Michael Carter	NT
58	Keena Turner	LB	96	Daniel Stubbs	DE
59	Keith DeLong	LB	98	Antonio Goss	LB
60	Chuck Thomas	C-G	99	Michael Walter	LB
61	Jesse Sapolu	C-G			



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San Francisco 49ers

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Birthdate	NFL Exp.	College
79	Barton, Harris	T	6-4	280	4/19/64	3	North Carolina
13	Bono, Steve	QB	6-4	215	5/11/62	5	UCLA
64	Burt, Jim	NT	6-1	260	6/7/59	9	Miami
31	Brooks, Chet	S	5-11	191	1/1/66	2	Texas A&M
95	Carter, Michael	NT	6-2	285	10/29/60	6	SMU
6	Cofer, Mike	K	6-1	190	2/19/64	2	North Carolina State
69	Collie, Bruce	G-T	6-6	275	6/27/62	5	Texas-Arlington
33	Craig, Roger	RB	6-0	214	7/10/60	7	Nebraska
59	DeLong, Keith	LB	6-2	235	8/14/67	R	Tennessee
75	Fagan, Kevin	DE	6-4	265	4/25/63	3	Miami
32	Flagler, Terrence	RB	6-0	200	9/24/64	3	Clemson
98	Goss, Antonio	LB	6-4	228	8/11/66	R	North Carolina
29	Griffin, Don	CB	6-0	176	3/17/64	4	Middle Tennessee State
94	Haley, Charles	LB-DE	6-5	230	1/6/64	4	James Madison
9	Helton, Barry	P	6-3	205	1/2/65	2	Colorado
30	Henderson, Keith	RB	6-1	220	8/4/66	R	Georgia
56	Hendrickson, Steve	LB	6-0	245	8/30/66	R	California
78	Holt, Pierce	DE	6-4	280	1/1/62	2	Angelo State
40	Jackson, Johnny	S	6-1	204	1/11/67	R	Houston
84	Jones, Brent	TE	6-4	230	2/12/63	3	Santa Clara
67	Kugler, Pete	NT	6-4	255	8/9/59	7	Penn State
42	Lott, Ronnie	S	6-0	200	5/8/59	9	USC
62	McIntyre, Guy	G	6-3	265	2/17/61	6	Georgia
22	McKyer, Tim	CB	6-0	174	9/5/63	4	Texas-Arlington
54	Millen, Matt	LB	6-2	245	3/12/58	10	Penn State
16	Montana, Joe	QB	6-2	195	6/11/56	11	Notre Dame
77	Paris, Bubba	T	6-6	299	10/6/60	7	Michigan
26	Pollard, Darryl	CB	5-11	187	5/11/64	3	Weber State
44	Rathman, Tom	RB	6-1	232	10/7/62	4	Nebraska
80	Rice, Jerry	WR	6-2	200	10/13/62	5	Mississippi Valley State
91	Roberts, Larry	DE	6-3	275	6/2/63	4	Alabama
53	Romanowski, Bill	LB	6-4	231	4/2/66	2	Boston College
61	Sapolu, Jesse	C-G	6-4	260	3/10/61	4	Hawaii
88	Sherrard, Mike	WR	6-2	187	6/21/63	2	UCLA
96	Stubbs, Daniel	DE	6-4	260	1/3/65	2	Miami
66	Tausch, Terry	G	6-5	276	2/5/59	8	Texas
82	Taylor, John	WR	6-1	185	3/31/62	3	Delaware State
60	Thomas, Chuck	C-G	6-3	280	12/24/60	4	Oklahoma
23	Tillman, Spencer	RB	5-11	206	4/21/64	3	Oklahoma
58	Turner, Keena	LB	6-2	222	10/22/58	10	Purdue
74	Wallace, Steve	T	6-5	276	12/27/64	4	Auburn
89	Walls, Wesley	TE	6-5	246	2/26/66	R	Mississippi
99	Walter, Michael	LB	6-3	238	11/30/60	7	Oregon
81	Williams, Jamie	TE	6-4	245	2/25/60	7	Nebraska
85	Wilson, Mike	WR	6-3	215	12/19/58	9	Washington State
21	Wright, Eric	CB	6-1	185	4/18/59	8	Missouri
8	Young, Steve	QB	6-2	200	10/11/61	5	BYU

R—A first-year player who has not previously been in an NFL training camp.

THREE-DEEP LINEUPS

OFFENSE				
WR	**—82 John Taylor**	85 Mike Wilson		
LT	**—77 Bubba Paris**	74 Steve Wallace		
LG	**—62 Guy McIntyre**	66 Terry Tausch	60 Chuck Thomas	
C	**—61 Jesse Sapolu**	60 Chuck Thomas		
RG	**—69 Bruce Collie**	66 Terry Tausch	60 Chuck Thomas	
RT	**—79 Harris Barton**	74 Steve Wallace		
TE	**—84 Brent Jones**	89 Wesley Walls	81 Jamie Williams	
WR	**—80 Jerry Rice**	88 Mike Sherrard		
QB	**—16 Joe Montana**	8 Steve Young	13 Steve Bono	
RB	**—44 Tom Rathman**	30 Keith Henderson	23 Spencer Tillman	
RB	**—33 Roger Craig**	32 Terrence Flagler	23 Spencer Tillman	
DEFENSE				
LE	**—78 Pierce Holt**	91 Larry Roberts		
NT	**—67 Pete Kugler**	95 Michael Carter	64 Jim Burt	
RE	**—75 Kevin Fagan**	96 Daniel Stubbs		
LOLB	**—94 Charles Haley**	96 Daniel Stubbs	98 Antonio Goss	
LILB	**—54 Matt Millen**	59 Keith DeLong	56 Steve Hendrickson	
RILB	**—99 Michael Walter**	59 Keith DeLong	56 Steve Hendrickson	
ROLB	**—58 Keena Turner**	53 Bill Romanowski	98 Antonio Goss	
LCB	**—26 Darryl Pollard**	22 Tim McKyer		
RCB	**—29 Don Griffin**	21 Eric Wright		
SS	**—31 Chet Brooks**	40 Johnny Jackson		
FS	**—42 Ronnie Lott**	40 Johnny Jackson		
SPECIALISTS				
P	**— 9 Barry Helton**			
K	**— 6 Mike Cofer**			
H	**— 9 Barry Helton**	16 Joe Montana	8 Steve Young	
PC	**—60 Chuck Thomas**	89 Wesley Walls	61 Jesse Sapolu	
KC	**—60 Chuck Thomas**	61 Jesse Sapolu		
PR	**—82 John Taylor**	29 Don Griffin		
KR	**—32 Terrence Flagler**	23 Spencer Tillman	40 Johnny Jackson	

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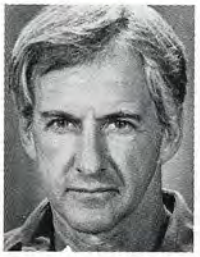
V.P. Business Operations

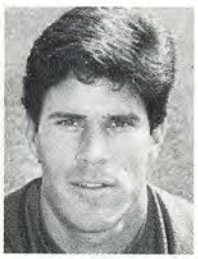


George Seifert
Head Coach

6 *Mike Cofer*
Kicker

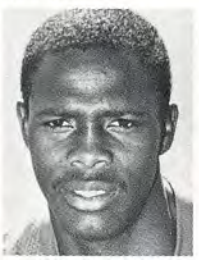
8 *Steve Young*
Quarterback

9 *Barry Helton*
Punter



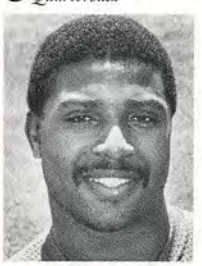
13 *Steve Bono*
Quarterback

16 *Joe Montana*
Quarterback

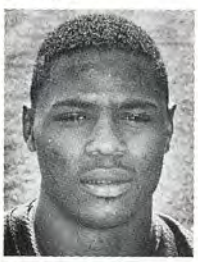


21 *Eric Wright*
Cornerback

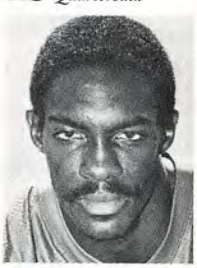
22 *Tim McKyer*
Cornerback



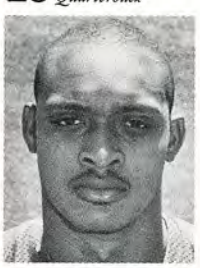
23 *Spencer Tillman*
Running Back



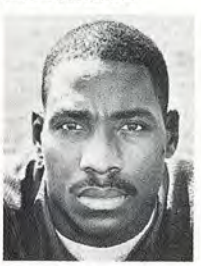
26 *Darryl Pollard*
Cornerback



29 *Don Griffin*
Cornerback



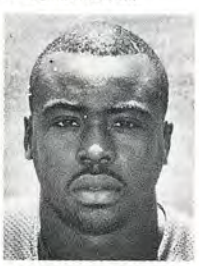
30 *Keith Henderson*
Running Back



31 *Chet Brooks*
Safety

32 *Terrence Flagler*
Running Back

33 *Roger Craig*
Running Back



40 *Johnny Jackson*
Safety

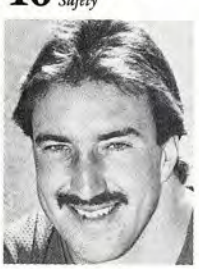
42 *Ronnie Lott*
Safety

44 *Tom Rathman*
Running Back

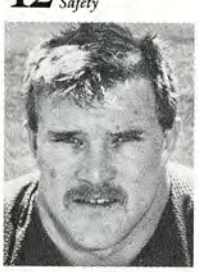
46 *Tom Holmoe*
Safety

53 *Bill Romanowski*
Linebacker

54 *Matt Millen*
Linebacker



55 *Jim Fahnhorst*
Linebacker



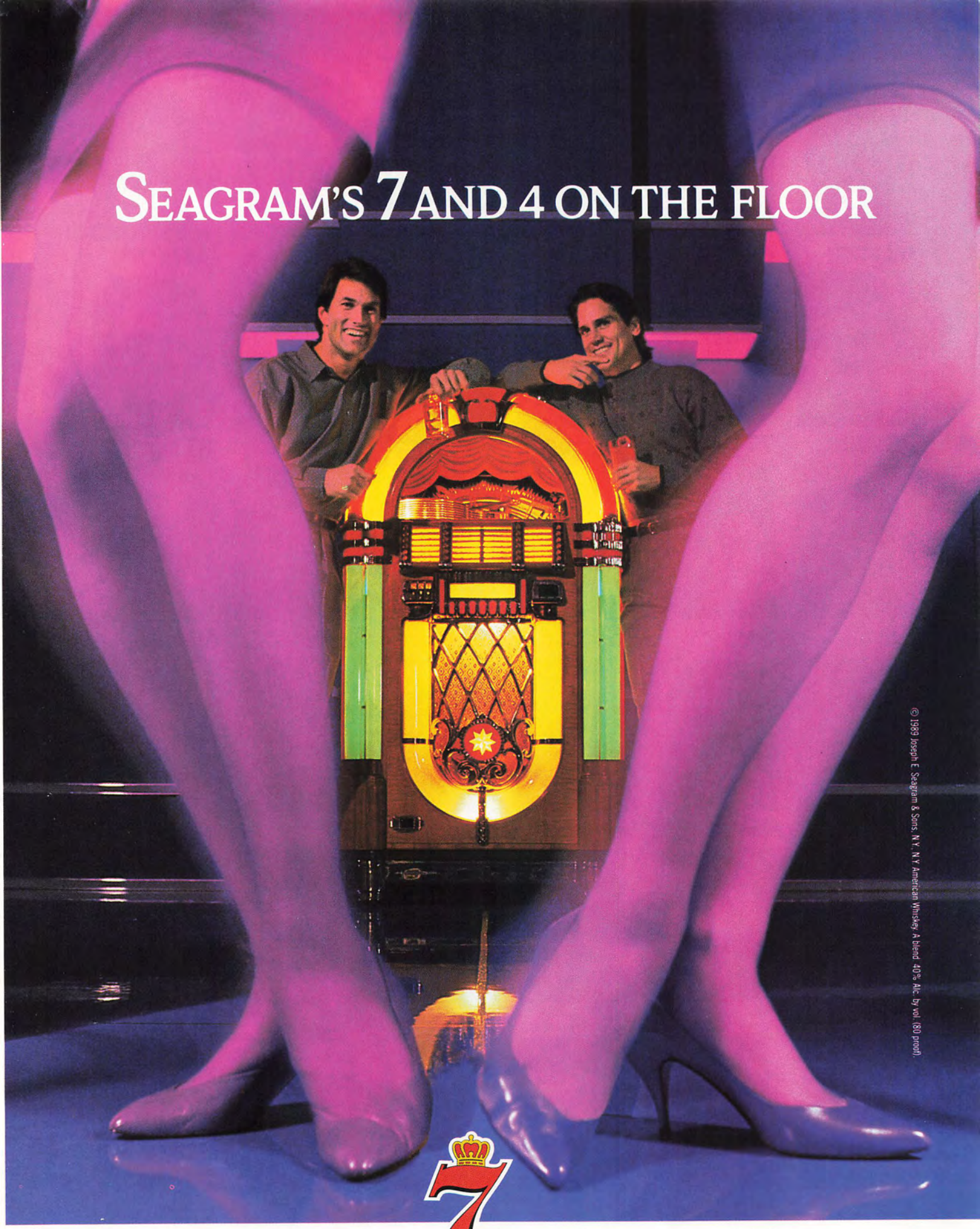
56 *Steve Hendrickson*
Linebacker

58 *Keena Turner*
Linebacker

59 *Keith DeLong*
Linebacker

60 *Chuck Thomas*
Center / Guard

61 *Jesse Sapolu*
Center / Guard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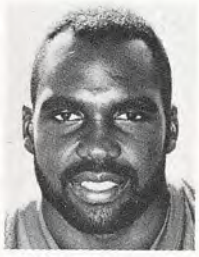
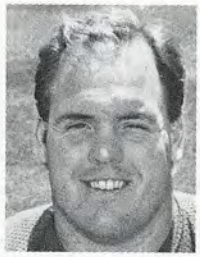
7
America's Good Time Spirit.

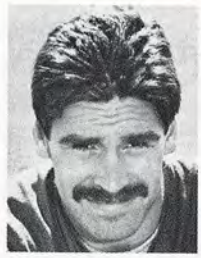


62 *Guy McIntyre*
Guard

64 *Jim Burt*
Nose Tackle

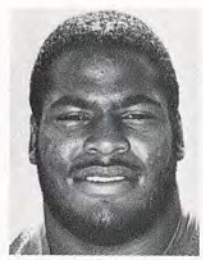


66 *Terry Tausch*
Guard



67 *Pete Kugler*
Nose Tackle

69 *Bruce Collie*
Guard / Tackle



74 *Steve Wallace*
Tackle

75 *Kevin Fagan*
Defensive End

77 *Bubba Paris*
Tackle

78 *Pierce Holt*
Defensive End

79 *Harris Barton*
Tackle

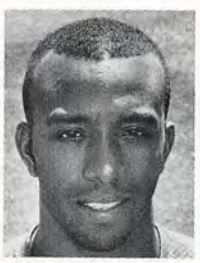
80 *Jerry Rice*
Wide Receiver

81 *Jamie Williams*
Tight End

82 *John Taylor*
Wide Receiver

84 *Brent Jones*
Tight End

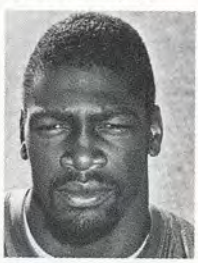
85 *Mike Wilson*
Wide Receiver



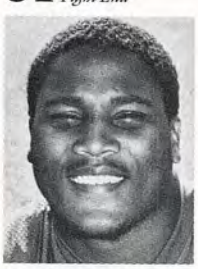
88 *Mike Sherrard*
Wide Receiver

89 *Wesley Walls*
Tight End

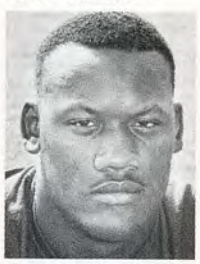
91 *Larry Roberts*
Defensive End



94 *Charles Haley*
Linebacker



95 *Michael Carter*
Nose Tackle



96 *Daniel Stubbs*
Defensive End

98 *Antonio Goss*
Linebacker

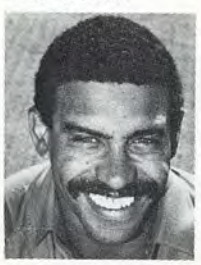
99 *Michael Walter*
Linebacker

Jerry Attaway
Assistant Coach

Tommy Hart
Assistant Coach

Mike Holmgren
Assistant Coach

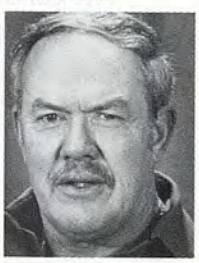
Al Lavan
Assistant Coach



Sherman Lewis
Assistant Coach

John Marshall
Assistant Coach

Bobb McKittrick
Assistant Coach



Bill McPherson
Assistant Coach

Ray Rhodes
Assistant Coach

Lynn Stiles
Assistant Coach

Bob Zeman
Assistant Coach

Lindsy McLean
Trainer

Bronco Hinek
Equipment Manager

CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HEAR THE CHEERS AT THE ROSE BOWL AS THEY RISE UP FROM 100,000 SEATS?

OR WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE THE ONLY GUY ON THE PARQUET AT THE BOSTON GARDEN?

OR HOW IT FEELS TO WALK OUT ON THE FRESH-CUT GRASS AT YANKEE STADIUM THE MORNING BEFORE A GAME?...

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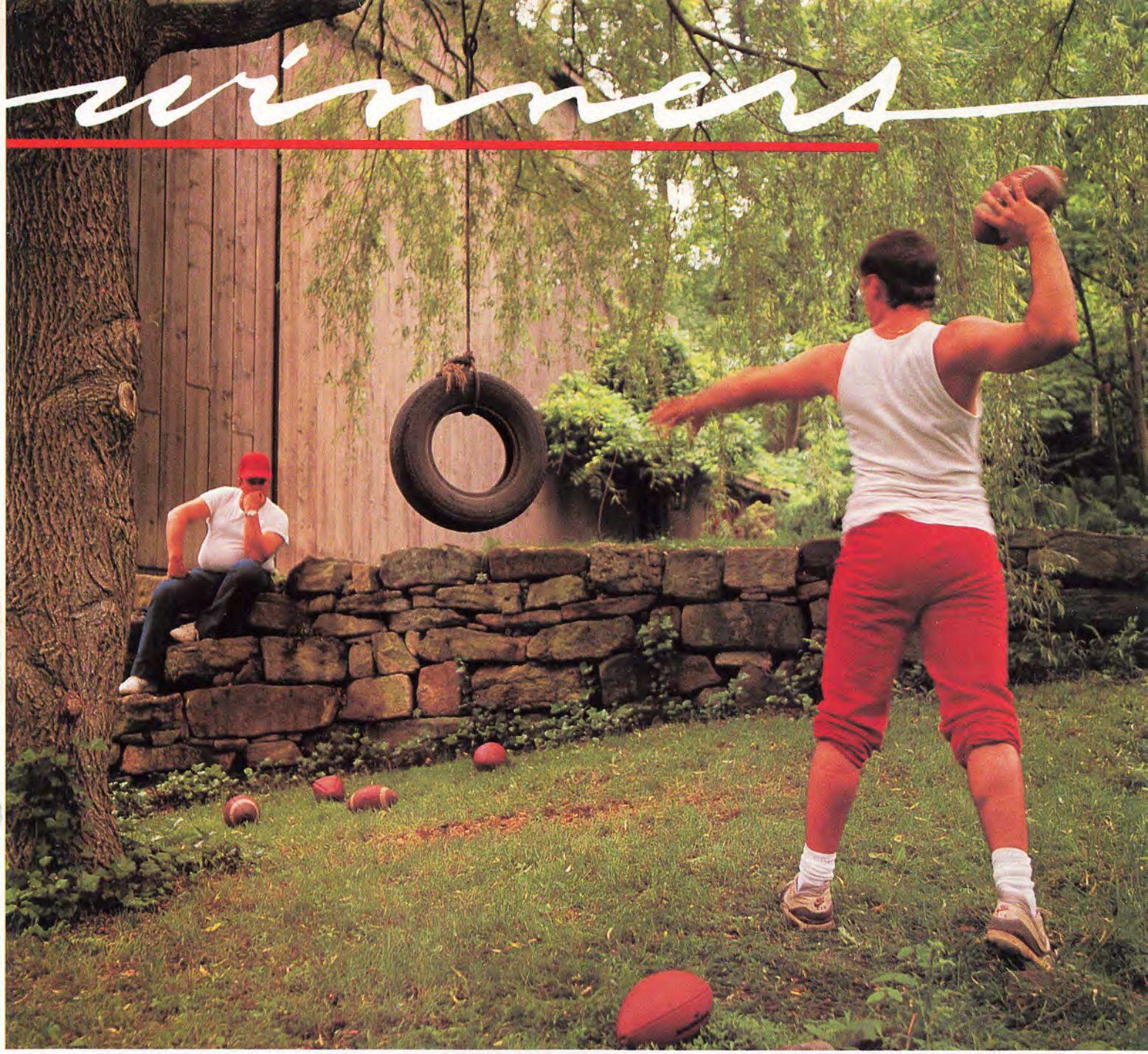
THE ESSENCE OF SPORTS



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Or is luxury something that gives you satisfaction?

Is luxury something other people are impressed with?

Or is luxury something that impresses you?

If you have a minute, this is the Infiniti view. We'd like to share it with you.

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The difference, *much* of the difference at any rate, is aesthetic. It is Japanese by nature that luxury should evoke a sense of simplicity, beauty and tranquility.

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Thank you.

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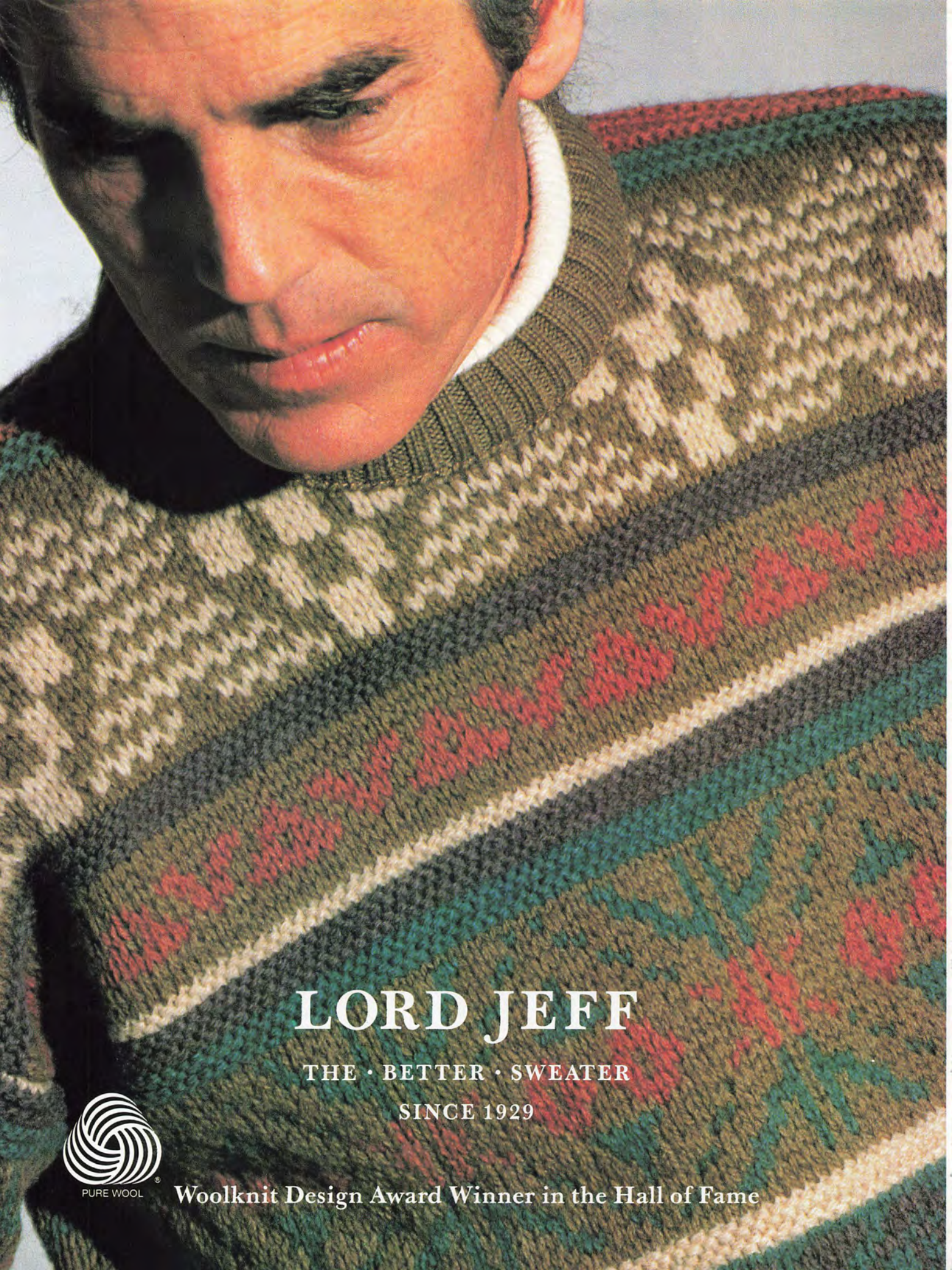
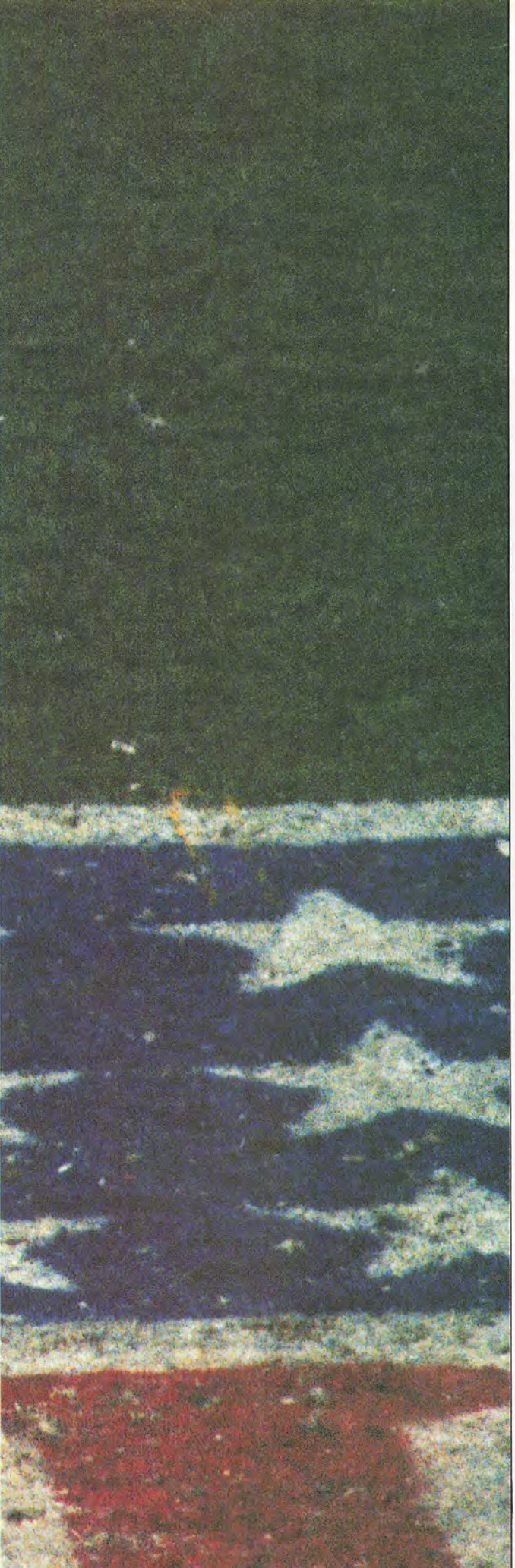

LORD JEFF
THE · BETTER · SWEATER
SINCE 1929
PURE WOOL
Woolknit Design Award Winner in the Hall of Fame

Spotlight

- ***Super Bowl IV***
  By Shelby Strother
- ***Images of the '80s***
- ***New Orleans Pictorial***



Gin Ellis

Images of the '80s

Text by Phil Barber

Each decade boasts its great football teams, its great players, its great games. Would an all-pro team of the 1980s beat a similar squad from the 1960s if each group were in its prime? Could the 1985 Bears beat the 1940 Bears? Which game was more exciting, the Giants-Colts Championship Game in 1958 or the Chargers-Dolphins Divisional Playoff game in January, 1982? All of these questions, of course, are impossible to answer with anything more than educated guesses and gut feelings. That's why they're fun to tackle. But there is one claim that can be made with reasonable certainty: The football photography of the 1980s was better than that of any previous decade. Needless to say, we couldn't show you every excellent or important photo taken at NFL games in the last decade—you wouldn't be able to lift this program, let alone find the time to browse through it. Instead, we will jog your memory with a representative collection of important images of the major NFL events and personalities of the past 10 years. And what better way to begin than with "The Team of the Decade," as enthusiasts began to call the San Francisco 49ers after they defeated Cincinnati 20-16 in Super Bowl XXIII last January. In recording their third Super Bowl triumph of the eighties (San Francisco also beat the Bengals in Super Bowl XVI, then downed the Miami Dolphins in Super Bowl XIX), the 49ers joined the likes of the Green Bay Packers of the 1960s (five NFL titles, including Super Bowls I and II) and the Pittsburgh Steelers of the 1970s (four Super Bowl victories) as a dominant team. While much of San Francisco's personnel turned over between the team's first championship in 1981 and its third in 1988, several key participants remained constant throughout the span. Safety Ronnie Lott, for instance, continues to be the 49ers' steadfast defensive leader; Bill Walsh, now an NBC analyst, was the head coach and the guiding strategist for the three Super Bowl victories; and Joe Montana (left, at midfield in Super Bowl XIX in Stanford Stadium), who leaves the decade as the highest-rated passer in NFL history, was—and is—the man who got the San Francisco offense going in crucial situations. Before the Washington Redskins faltered this season, they had hopes of challenging the 49ers' claim to 1980s greatness. Washington won two Super Bowls—XVII and XXII—and lost a third during the decade. The Raiders, who beat Washington in Super Bowl XVIII, were the only AFC team to emerge as a Super Bowl winner during the decade. The Raiders, who moved from Oakland to Los Angeles in 1982, opened the curtain on the eighties by beating the Eagles in Super Bowl XV.

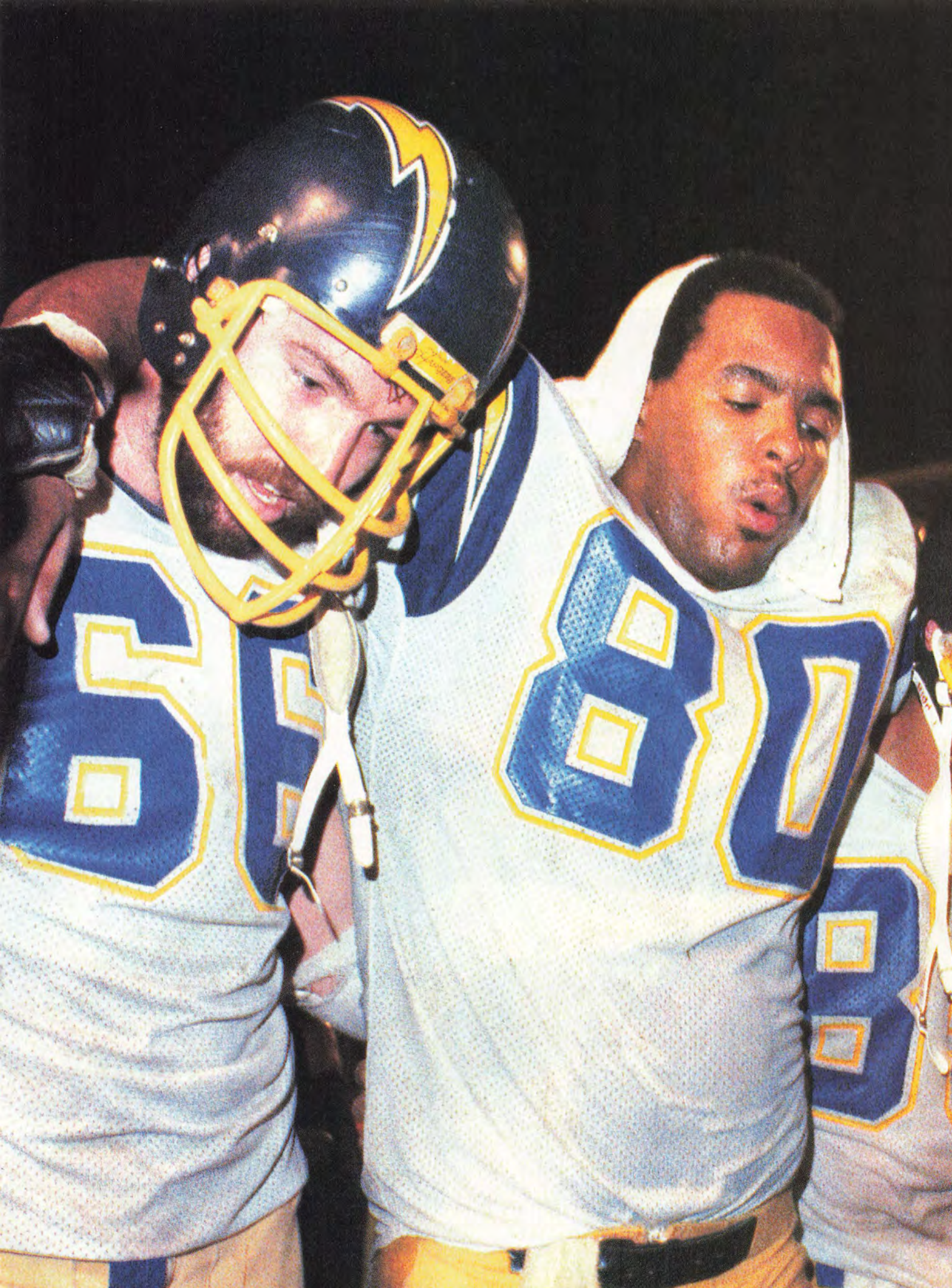
Images of the '80s

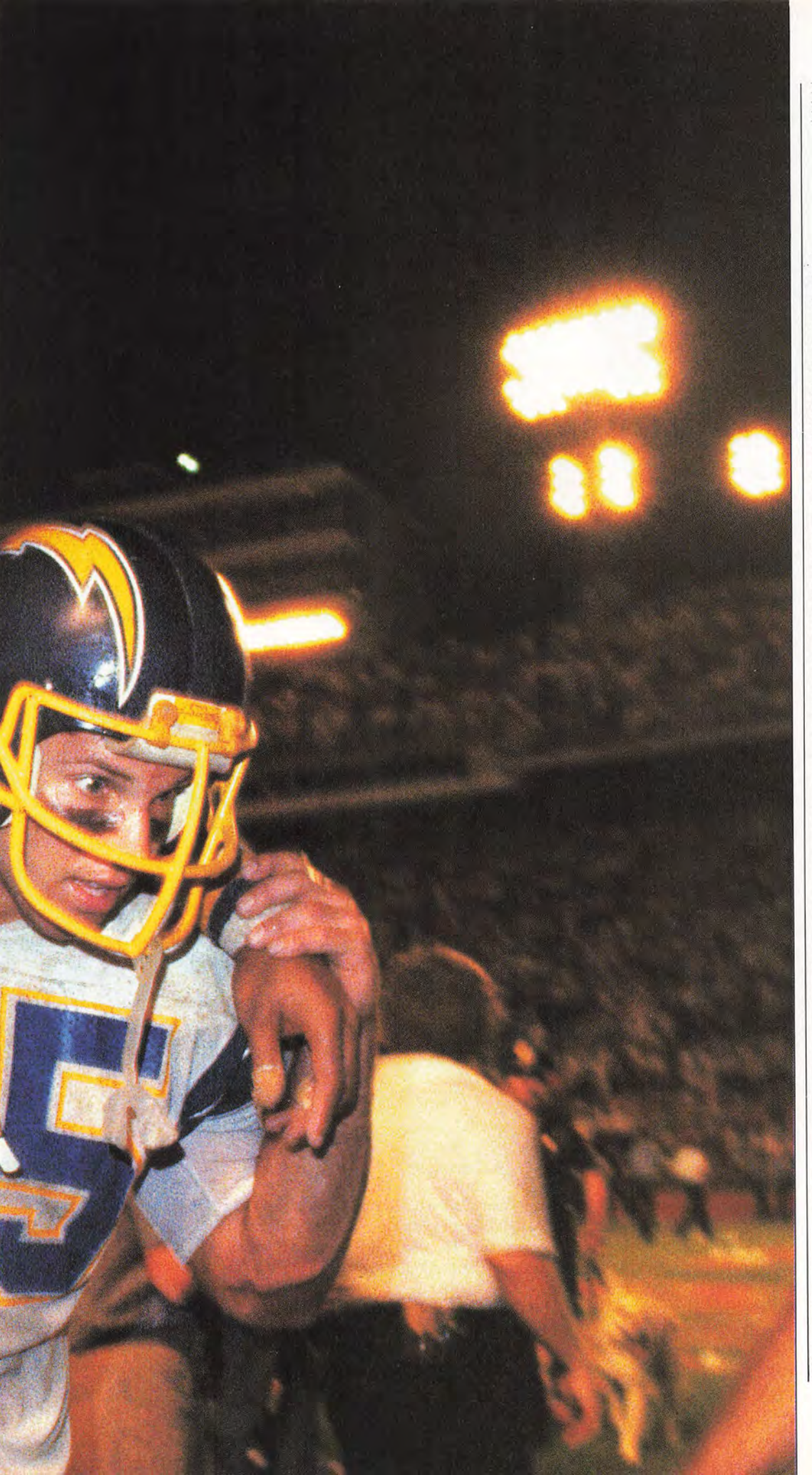
Football is still football, but evolutionary changes make it a slightly different game today than it was in 1979. The most significant trend has been the addition of instant video replay as an officiating tool. After entertaining the thought for years, NFL team owners adopted limited use of instant replay in 1986, adding a "replay official" to the regular seven-man officiating crew. Four seasons later, all football fans are familiar with the image of the replay official scrutinizing a questionable fumble call or a close out-of-bounds play. The owners have continued the replay system with a series of four affirmative one-year votes. Besides adding an extra official, the NFL Rules Committee also altered the letter of the law in the 1980s. One of the more memorable decisions sprang almost directly from the goo-covered hands of Lester Hayes (below). Hayes wasn't the first NFL player to use the adhesive substance known as "stick-um," he just took the practice to

gooey new lengths. The Oakland Raiders cornerback had a phenomenal year in 1980, intercepting 13 passes during the regular season, adding 5 more in the postseason, and helping the Raiders to the NFL championship.

The only problem was that officials continually had to exchange sticky footballs for fresh ones during Raiders games. The substance now is illegal. A couple of 1980s rules changes stand out for their inability to win public favor. One, capsulized as the "no-taunting rule," prohibits "any prolonged, excessive, or premeditated celebration;" the other subjects the home team to delay of game penalties when the visiting offense is hampered by deafening crowd noise. The Rules Committee adopted several measures to make the game safer, strengthening the "in-the-grasp" rule for quarterback sacks and prohibiting players from "directly striking, swinging, or clubbing on the head, neck, or face." Other modifications included replacing the 30-second clock with a 45-second clock, and dividing both facemask and roughing-the-kicker violations into two penalties, one for unintentional (5 yards) and the other for flagrant (15) fouls.

Peter Read Miller





Images of the

'80s

The best game of the eighties? That's quite a mantle to bear, but there is no shortage of worthy candidates. One's conclusion might well depend on the criterion used. Are great comebacks your fancy? In December of 1980, the 0-13 Saints enthusiastically jumped to a 35-7 lead over San Francisco, only to see the 49ers make up the biggest deficit in NFL history in a 38-35 victory. But for sheer drama, the 1981 AFC Divisional Playoff Game between San Diego and Miami is hard to top in any decade. Don Strock came off the bench to throw four touchdown passes and rally the Dolphins from a 24-0 deficit to a 38-38 tie, but Rolf Benirschke's field goal won it for the Chargers after 13:52 of overtime. San Diego tight end Kellen Winslow (left) caught 13 passes, blocked a field goal that would have won the game in regulation, and finally had to be helped off the field in a state of exhaustion. Has any game ever had more big plays than Washington's 37-35 victory over the Raiders in October, 1983? The Redskins scored 17 points in the last 7:30 of the game, negating two monumental Los Angeles touchdowns—Cliff Branch's 99-yard catch-and-run and Greg Pruitt's 97-yard punt return. And we can't omit the AFC title games of 1986 and 1987, which burned a hatred of the Broncos into the hearts of all Cleveland fans. Denver and John Elway used "The Drive" to win 23-20 in 1986, then capitalized on "The Fumble" to outlast the Browns 38-33 in 1987.

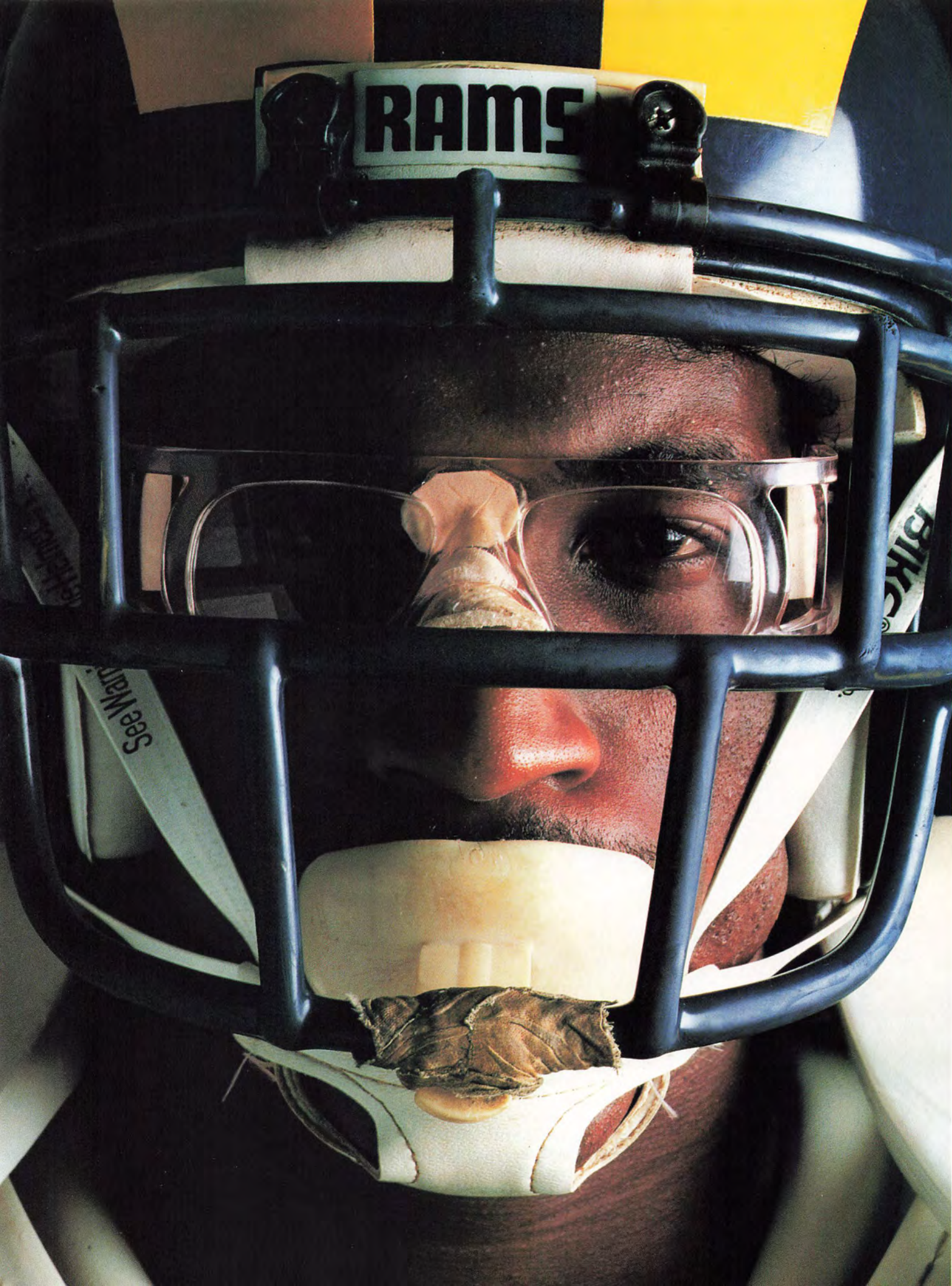
Al Messerschmidt

Images of the '80s

The *Official NFL Record & Fact Book* has gone through some serious revisions since 1979, and the man who did the most damage to the charts was an indestructible, 202-pound halfback they called "Sweetness" when he wasn't straight-arming the wind out of would-be tacklers. The Chicago Bears' Walter Payton (above) retired in 1987 with a long list of league records. The most significant mark is his 16,726 rushing yards, the NFL equivalent of Hank Aaron's 755 home runs. Payton also holds marks for most lifetime rushing attempts (3,838) and touchdowns (110). Currently holding at number two on the all-time rushing list is Tony Dorsett, who compiled 12,739 yards—more than the great Jim Brown—mostly with the Dallas Cowboys. Dorsett, incidentally, also must be noted for a play against the Vikings in January, 1983, when he scampered 99 yards for the long-

The Allens

est touchdown run from scrimmage in NFL history. What Payton did for the ground game in the 1980s, Seattle's Steve Largent did for receivers. In 1987-88, Largent, whom the Seahawks acquired from Houston in 1976 for an eighth-round draft choice, became the NFL's all-time leader in pass receptions and yardage (moving ahead of San Diego's Charlie Joiner in both categories); it took Largent until 1989 to beat Don Hutson's number of career touchdown catches—with 100. Miami's Dan Marino hasn't shattered NFL career passing marks—yet—but he has gobbled up single-season records at a frightening pace. In 1986, the quarterback with the subsonic release set records for attempts (623) and completions (378). He already had made a lot of eyes bug out in 1984, only his second season, when he passed for 5,084 yards and 44 touchdowns. Those weren't the only major NFL season records that fell in 1984, either. Eric Dickerson, the Rams' second-year running sensation, rushed past O.J. Simpson's 11-year-old mark for 2,105 yards, while Washington's Art Monk broke a 20-year-old mark with 106 pass receptions.

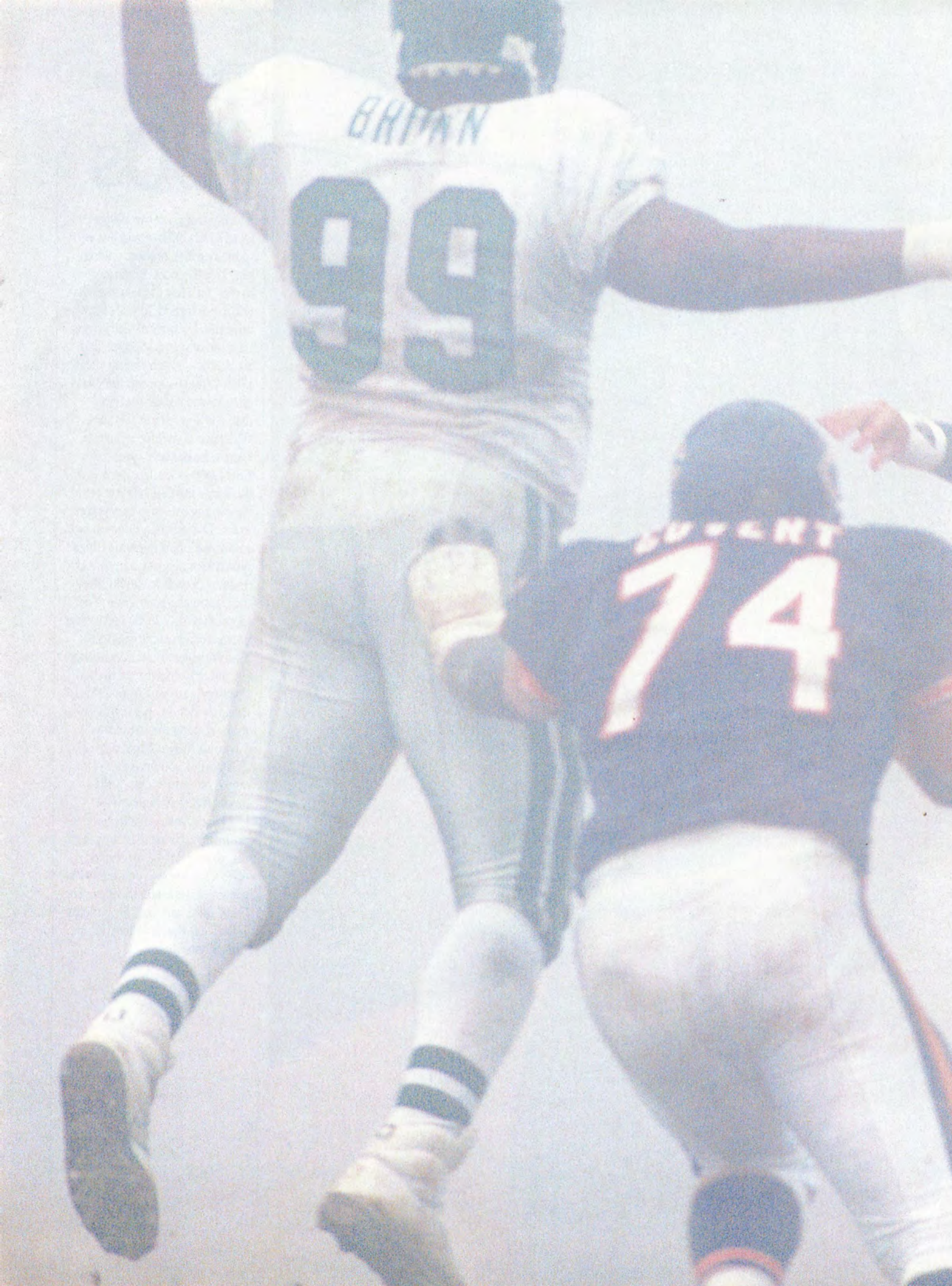

RAMS

Peter Read Miller

Images of the

'80s

An all-pro team of the 1980s? A lot of sports buffs would just as soon say which of their children they love the most. Better simply to toss out a few of the names that will live as legend 30 years from now. Eric Dickerson's (left) combination of speed, strength, and acceleration borders on the illegal. What would happen to the world if Dickerson rushed for fewer than 1,000 yards in a season? We'll have to wait for an answer, because he has yet to post fewer than 1,000 in seven seasons with the Rams and Colts. If you could choose any contemporary player to face Dickerson in a one-on-one confrontation, it might be Chicago's Mike Singletary, a hyperactive middle linebacker who puts losing one notch above dying. For most of the decade, Singletary was the heart and soul of the Bears' punishing defense. And who were the only players selected to the Pro Bowl each year from 1981 through 1989? Cincinnati's Anthony Muñoz and the Giants' Lawrence Taylor. Muñoz, a 6-6, 278-pound, soft-spoken mountain at offensive tackle, is the model for every high school blocker in America. Offensive coordinators still are searching for a way to stop Taylor, an outside linebacker who is a quarterback's worst nightmare on the blitz. The list of superstars goes on. . .there's Jerry Rice, Randy White, John Elway, and. . .


BRYAN
99
74

Al Tielemans

Images of the

'80s

Two NFL teams, the Minnesota Vikings and the Indianapolis Colts, moved indoors during the 1980s, but domed-home clubs still are in the minority. In other words, the elements continue to have their say in the outcome of many games. The 1988 NFC Divisional Playoff Game (left) between the Eagles and Bears began under bright blue skies in Chicago's Soldier Field. But late in the second quarter fog began to roll in off Lake Michigan, and it didn't stop until the stadium was shrouded in a deep, eerie mist. NFL officials considered suspending the game because people in the press box and stands—and even some players on the sidelines—couldn't see the action. But the murky show went on, and the Bears won 20-12. A couple of the decade's quirkiest games turned upon snow and ice—and their manipulation by human hands. Dolphins fans still seethe over the "Snowplow Game" of December 12, 1982. With 4:45 left in a scoreless tie, New England kicker John Smith trotted onto the icy Schaefer Stadium (now Sullivan Stadium) field to attempt a 33-yard field goal. The unlikely hero, however, was Mark Henderson, who was on a one-day work release from Norfolk State Prison. Henderson used a John Deere 314 tractor to clear a spot for the kick, and the Patriots won 3-0. Then, of course, there was the "Snowball Game," in which John Elway threw two touchdown passes to lead Denver to a 17-16 victory over San Francisco in 1985. The most crucial toss of the day, though, actually came from an anonymous Broncos fan who lobbed a snowball with enough accuracy and timing to startle 49ers placekick holder Matt Cavanaugh, who bobbled a snap that could have led to a deciding field goal.

Images of the '80s

In January, 1980, the AFC-NFC Pro Bowl packed its bags and moved to Hawaii, and the cozy relationship that since has developed between the players and the spectators probably will keep the series there for years to come. The idyllic setting of Aloha Stadium on the island of Oahu (below) is almost as much of an incentive for NFL players as the personal pride that accompanies a Pro Bowl selection. Hawaii seemed pretty exotic to most football fans in 1980, but that was before the league began to spread its wings. The eighties will be remembered as the decade that introduced live NFL football to a truly worldwide audience. The American

Bowl series began in 1986 when the Cowboys and Bears played before a boisterous, standing-room-only crowd at Wembley Stadium in London, England. Three subsequent games at Wembley have engendered even greater enthusiasm. Besides its four installments in the United Kingdom—where popular support for the NFL is reaching a fever pitch—the American Bowl also has invaded Asia. The Rams and 49ers drew gleeful curiosity when they played in Tokyo's "Big Egg" Dome last August. Other recent preseason games have taken place in Montreal, Quebec, and Goteborg, Sweden. But all this is just the tip of the iceberg. The World League of American Football—a full-scale professional league set to begin operation in the spring of 1991 and headed by Tex Schramm—will include 12 franchises, six in the U.S., four in Europe, and one each in Canada and Mexico.

Richard Peterson

Images of the

'80s

From Air Coryell to the Run-n-Shoot, the 1980s will be remembered as a passing era to match the wild and woolly days of the AFL. Before 1989, the NFL record book listed 14 4,000-yard seasons by quarterbacks, and 12 of those took place between 1980 and 1988. Also, excluding the 1989 season, 5 of the 10 top-rated quarterbacks of all time were products of the eighties. Need more evidence? Dave Krieg and Tommy Kramer each have recorded four 400-yard passing games; Pro Football Hall of Fame members Johnny Unitas and Fran Tarkenton attained one each. The beginning of the decade saw the heyday of Don Coryell's bombs-away aerial attack in San Diego. The man in the center of the action was Dan Fouts (right), a slow-footed but hard-nosed quarterback with a magic arm. In 1980, the AFC's three leading receivers all were Chargers. One third of that trio was Kellen Winslow, who, along with players such as Cleveland's Ozzie Newsome and the Raiders' Todd Christensen, helped to redefine the tight end position in the eighties. Shifting the tight end's primary duties from blocking to catching passes was one of the big reasons behind the decade's passing explosion. Another was the 1983 draft in which six quarterbacks—John Elway, Dan Marino, Jim Kelly, Ken O'Brien, Tony Eason, and Todd Blackledge—were selected in the first round. Elway took the Denver Broncos to two Super Bowl appearances, but it was Marino (left) who had the most impact upon the passing game. Throwing to one of the league's finest wide receiver tandems, Mark Clayton and Mark Duper, Marino threatens to shatter every NFL passing mark during his career.

Peter Read Miller

Malcolm Emmons

Images of the

'80s

It is known simply as "The Catch." The 49ers, trailing 27-21 with a minute remaining in the 1981 NFC Championship Game, were looking at a third-down play from the Dallas 6. Quarterback Joe Montana dropped back, was flushed from the pocket, and threw a pass to the back of the end zone, where Dwight Clark (right) leaped higher than he ever had leaped before to make the catch that sent the 49ers to Super Bowl XVI. Yes, even when the subject is 10 years' worth of NFL action, specific plays can stand on their own. Two miraculous finishes from the first half of the decade bear recounting. The 1980 Browns were called the Kardiac Kids because of their penchant for dramatic comebacks, but it was Cleveland that was victimized by Ahmad Rashad in December of that year. With five seconds left, Minnesota's Tommy Kramer launched a desperation pass from the Browns' 46-yard line. The ball was tipped into the air, and Rashad caught it and backpedaled into the end zone for a 28-23 Vikings victory. That play was matched in November, 1983, when Atlanta's Steve Bartkowski threw a towering pass on the final play of a game against the 49ers. San Francisco's Keena Turner batted the ball, but Billy (White Shoes) Johnson caught it at the 6, dodged three defenders, and barely got the ball over the goal line with a lunge. Final score: Falcons 28, 49ers 24. One of the wildest defensive plays of the decade occurred last September. The Washington Redskins, trying to run out the clock, gave the ball to the reliable Gerald Riggs, who fumbled. Philadelphia linebacker Al Harris recovered the loose ball and lateraled to Wes Hopkins, who ran 77 yards to set up the winning touchdown in the Eagles' 42-37 victory.

Walter Iooss, Jr.

Images of the

'80s

They said the Pro Football Hall of Fame came of age in 1985. That year's class (at left)—Frank Gatski, Joe Namath, Pete Rozelle, O.J. Simpson, and Roger Staubach—included some of the most significant figures of the modern era. Namath, Simpson, and Staubach were three of the true standouts of the late 1960s and early 1970s. Namath struck a blow for American Football League equality when he led the New York Jets to a shocking upset of the Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III; Buffalo's Simpson was the first running back ever to gain 2,000 yards in a season; and Staubach was a brilliant leader who took Dallas to five Super Bowls. Simpson and Staubach were the first Heisman Trophy winners ever to gain selection to the Hall. Rozelle, of course, played a pivotal role in bringing the NFL to its current state of prosperity. As league commissioner from 1960 to 1989, he presided over an era of unprecedented growth and popularity. In 1988, the Pro Football Hall of Fame celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary as a monument to the NFL's most memorable personalities. A list of those who were enshrined during the last decade would include luminaries such as George Blanda (1981), Terry Bradshaw (1989), Mike Ditka (1988), Sid Gillman (1983), Joe Greene (1987), Paul Hornung (1986), Bob Lilly (1980), Merlin Olsen (1982), Art Shell (1989), Fran Tarkenton (1986), Doak Walker (1986), and Paul Warfield (1983). The greatest performers of the 1980s one day will join them in Canton, Ohio.

Pete J. Groh

Images of the '80s

In the final analysis, players often are remembered for their personalities as much as for their on-field abilities. Any exploration of the 1980s would be incomplete without at least a few words about the decade's characters, cut-ups, and crackpots. The Chicago Bears were the unofficial league leaders when it came to left fielders. Jim McMahon (above), traded to San Diego last August, was a record-setting quarterback at, of all places, squeaky-clean Brigham Young University. McMahon, sporting a spiked haircut, 24-hour sunglasses, and an almost permanent sneer, became an overnight cult hero. Joining McMahon for Chicago's Super Bowl drive in 1985 was a 320-pound sensation with an engaging smile. William (Refrigerator) Perry reminded people of a big, cute teddy bear, even as he bowled over

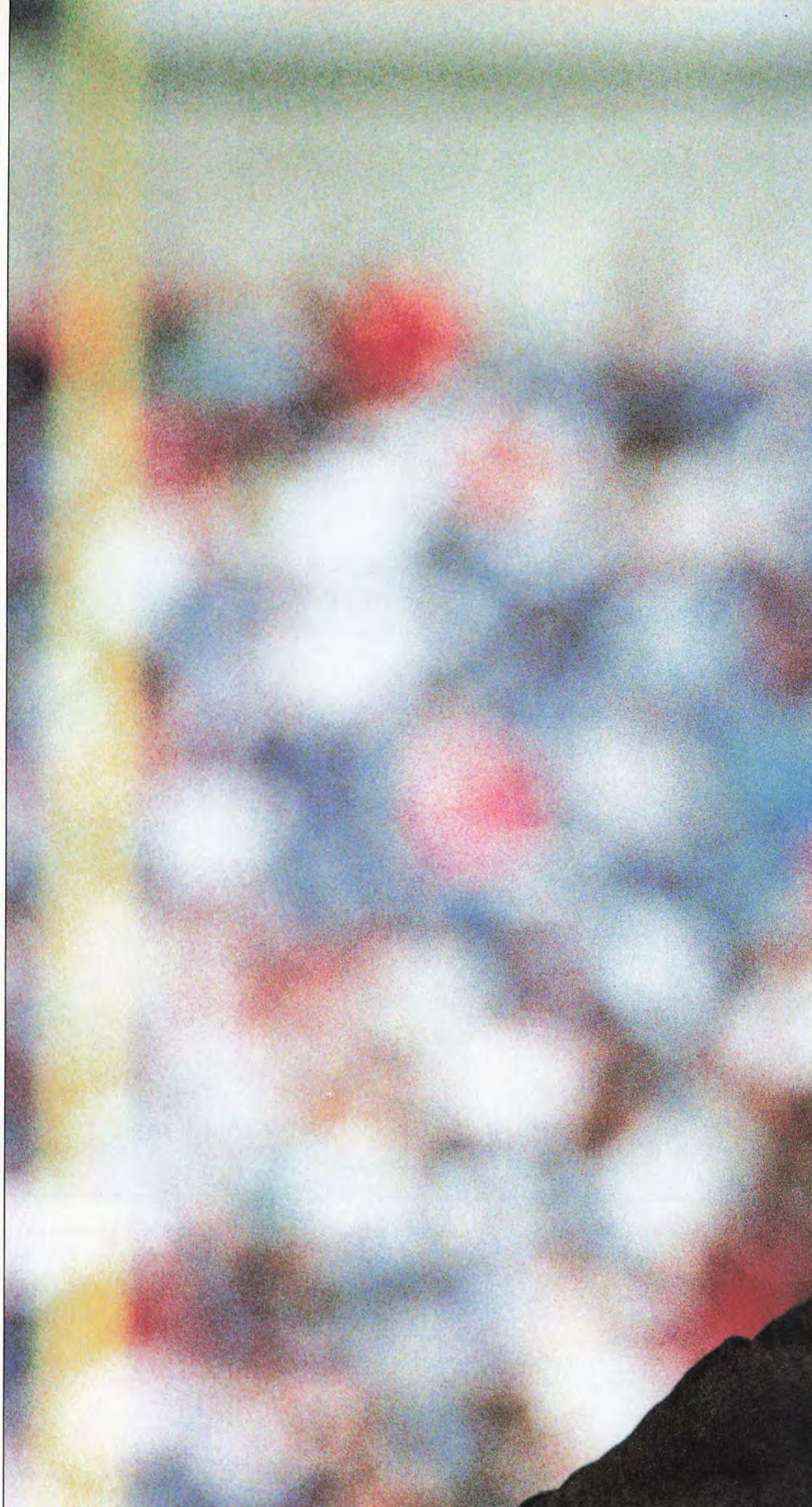
Al Messerschmidt

tacklers as a makeshift goal-line fullback. McMahon's place as the patron saint of rebels was challenged when linebacker Brian Bosworth joined the Seahawks in 1987. Bosworth made big waves as a self-styled (and well-promoted) anti-hero, but he has yet to attain star status on the field. Then, of course, there was Jets defensive end Mark Gastineau, who delighted the New York tabloids with sack dances and tales of scuffles in exclusive discos. In perfect form, Gastineau retired in 1988 to devote more attention to his wife, Swedish model-actress Brigitte Nielsen. Finalists in the Fast Talker category include Washington quarterback Joe Theismann and Raiders tight end Todd Christensen, two all-pros who attracted media attention with their propensity to cite *The Wall Street Journal* or Plato's *Republic*. Some of the decade's best quotes came from an unlikely source: the heart of the trenches, the natural habitat of wise guys such as nose tackles Fred Smerlas of the Bills and Bob Golic of the Browns and Raiders, and center Randy Cross of the 49ers. Maybe adversity truly does breed humor.

Images of the

'80s

The 1980s brought new faces and new opportunities to the NFL. Quite a few franchises changed hands in the last decade, bringing a new breed of entrepreneur—some have called them the "Young Turks"—to the forefront of the league hierarchy. But the flip side of positive change is having to say goodby to old friends. A 1989 shake-up in Dallas resulted in the departure *en masse* of head coach Tom Landry, president Tex Schramm, and personnel director Gil Brandt, the three men most responsible for nurturing the Cowboys to three decades of unparalleled success. Landry (right), who falls just short of divinity in Texas, is third in NFL history with 270 career wins. The last year of the decade also marked the retirement of Commissioner Pete Rozelle, who oversaw nearly 30 years of NFL growth after his election as a 33-year-old compromise candidate in 1960. It will take years to fully gauge Rozelle's tremendous contribution to the league's prosperity. George Halas and Art Rooney, Sr., two of the last great patriarchs of the league, passed from the scene in the 1980s. Halas, who died in October, 1983, at 88, was a walking, talking piece of football history. One of the original founders of the APFA (the forerunner to the NFL), Papa Bear played for 11 seasons, coached for 40, and ran the Bears organization for no fewer than 63. Rooney, who died in August, 1988, at 87, came upon the scene in 1933 when he bought the Pittsburgh Pirates (later renamed the Steelers in 1941) for $2,500. For the next 55 years he presided over his team with the same good-humored compassion that defined all his activities and made him a legend in Pittsburgh.



Paul Moseley/Ft. Worth Star-Telegraph

Len's Nightmare, Len's Dream

A Lot of the Drama in Super Bowl IV —Chiefs 23, Vikings 7—Was in the Pregame Ordeal of Quarterback Len Dawson

By Shelby Strother

His head lurched suddenly up from the pillow and the disoriented feeling caused Len Dawson to blanch. Then he felt his legs cramp again. Then he felt nauseated. He looked at the alarm clock. It was 4 in the morning.

Super Bowl IV was less than 11 hours away. Dawson, the quarterback of the Kansas City Chiefs, rested his head back on the pillow for a few moments. Should he try to go back to sleep or get up? Then another wave of nausea hit.

The toughest week of the toughest season of his career had come down to pro football's biggest game. He and the Chiefs had worked so hard to get there. Dawson had withstood a knee injury that kept him out six weeks. His father had died during the season. Then his arrival in New Orleans, where the AFL-NFL Championship Game against the Minnesota Vikings would be played, was accompanied by the numbing pain of innuendo.

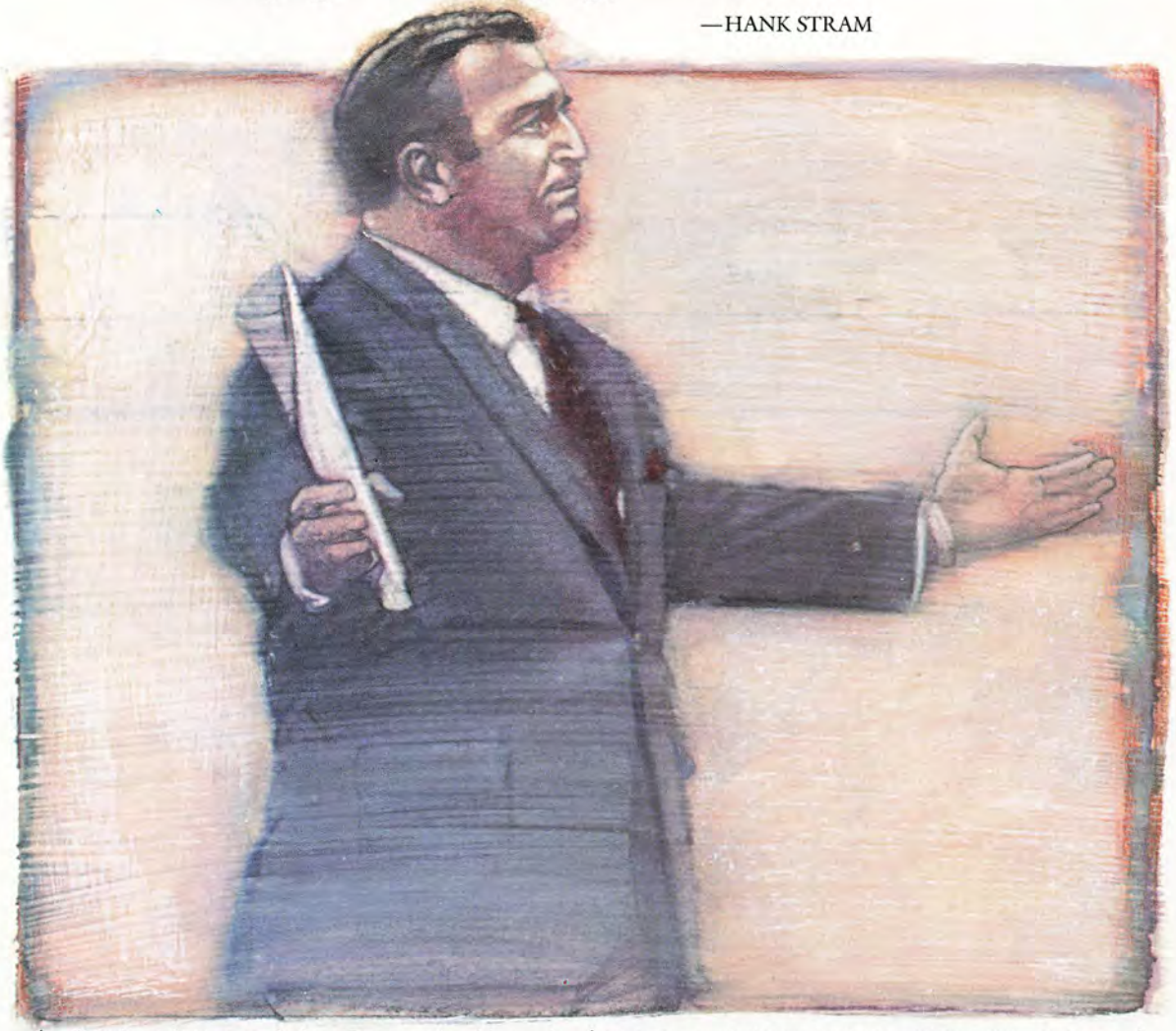
"In Detroit a special Justice Department task force conducting what it described as the biggest gambling investigation of its kind ever is about to call seven professional football players and one college coach to testify on their relationship with known gamblers. . ."

So began the Huntley-Brinkley Report on NBC television Tuesday, January 6, 1970. When it got to the part that went, ". . .Among the players scheduled to appear is Len Dawson, quarterback for the Kansas City Chiefs, who will play the Minnesota Vikings in the Super Bowl Sunday," Len Dawson's world was forever changed.

Len's Nightmare, Len's Dream

"It [the game] became a totally out-of-focus event....never perceived for what it really was, namely a great victory by a great team."

—HANK STRAM



People made snap conclusions. It was a miserable way for a quarterback to prepare for a championship game. Commissioner Pete Rozelle—a strong warrior in the fight against sports gambling and a man whose disciplinary actions resulted in the suspension of two players seven years earlier for betting on pro football games, a man who just months earlier demanded that Joe Namath, the hero of Super Bowl III, sell his part-ownership of a New York bar because known gamblers were among the frequent clientele—quickly served as a shield for Dawson. Rozelle stated strongly that league investigators were not aware of any wrongdoing. His investigators had checked and found nothing. Rozelle said he thought NBC's report was "totally irresponsible."

There was a press conference with Dawson in which there were tough questions and quick denials. Nobody wanted to talk about football.

In the bed next to his, Dawson heard roommate Johnny Robinson snoring. Dawson smiled. Robinson had cracked a couple of ribs in the AFL Championship Game against Oakland. As a result, Robinson had trouble breathing. It hurt to do anything. But a sleeping pill had sent Robinson safely into slumber. Dawson wondered what kind of pill would let him relax.

Before he could come up with an answer, he limped quickly to the bathroom, cramps piercing his calf muscles, his stomach rolling and churning. Pro football's biggest moment was at hand, but its glamour and charm were evading Len Dawson.

The last game ever to be played between the NFL and AFL was played in the shade of the controversy that erupted on the Tuesday before the game. The ensuing victory by the Chiefs should have been the realization of a dream for Dawson, who had been the quarterback on the losing team in Super Bowl I. Instead it became little more than redemption. The people who filled Tulane Stadium on January 11, 1970, were there to watch a trial, to watch an inverted justice system in which a man had to prove his innocence.

Twenty years later, Hank Stram, the Chiefs' head coach

"As far as the upset goes, I think it becomes less and less of an upset as more and more of the Chiefs get inducted into the Hall of Fame."

—BUD GRANT

that year, maintains his team was deprived of its fair share of recognition. He says the Kansas City defense was spectacular, his kicking game perhaps the greatest in history, his offense innovative and productive. But because of the accusations against Dawson that week, "it became a totally out-of-focus event. And I'm afraid it has stayed that way. The Chiefs played a great game that day. Not just Len Dawson. Don't get me wrong, Len displayed an incredible amount of character. He played an almost flawless game on a day when any and every mistake would have been held up for scrutiny. It was one of the greatest clutch performances I've ever seen under ridiculously unfair conditions. But that game has never been perceived for what it really was—namely, a great victory by a great team."

Stram pauses. "It still bothers me. The team we beat, the Minnesota Vikings, were a good team as well. Before the game, people were saying they were one of the best teams in NFL history. They were the Purple People Eaters. We were two-touchdown underdogs and we won pretty decisively. My personal feelings are of satisfaction and pride. We were the last AFL champions ever. We won the last game between the two leagues before the merger. But it is almost tragic that one unfortunate TV news report caused the rest of the world to lose its perspective."

Bud Grant, the Vikings' head coach, agrees the game became almost a sideshow to the main event, which was the public ordeal of Len Dawson, whose only crime turned out to be one of distant association.

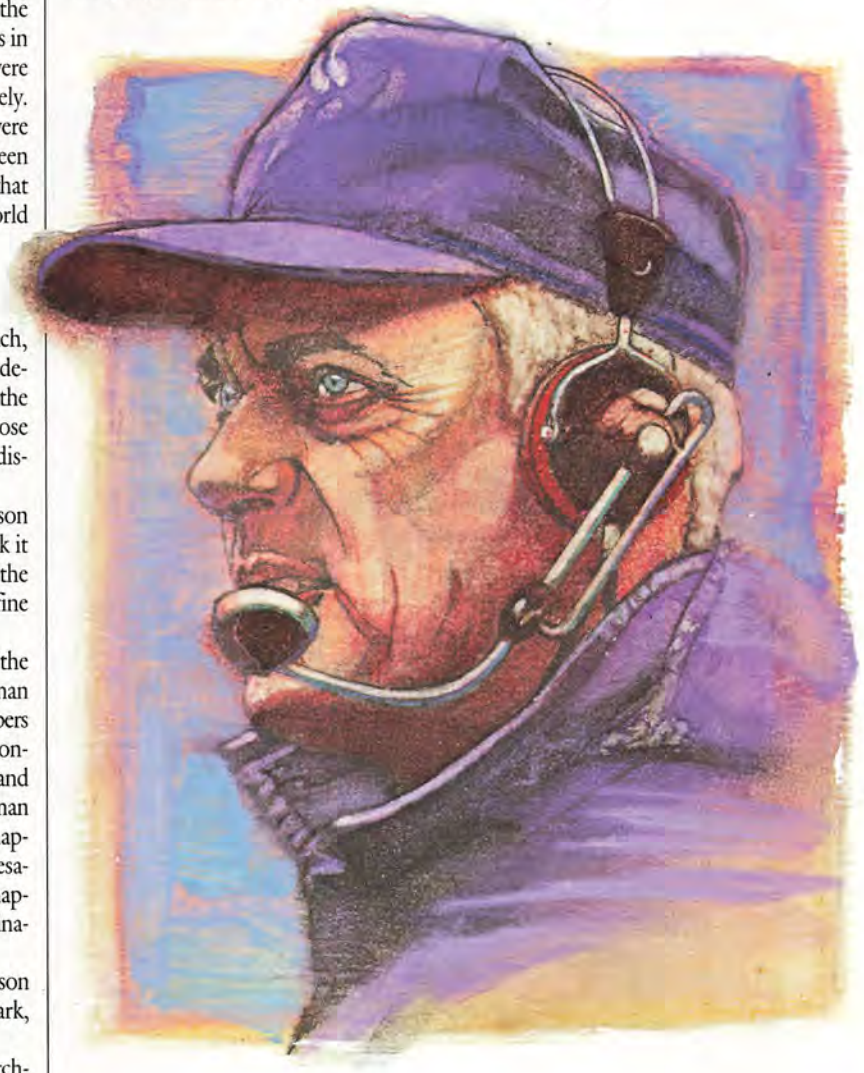
"People do seem to remember that game for the Dawson thing," Grant says. "As far as the great upset goes, I think it becomes less and less of an upset as more and more of the Chiefs get inducted into the Hall of Fame. That was a fine team that beat us. People tend to overlook that."

The 1969 pro football season was a lot like the rest of the world—chaotic, violent, emotional, pivotal. In 1969, man was walking on the moon, gathering in monstrous numbers for a protest march in Washington against the Vietnam conflict, collecting an even larger crowd for a peace, love, and music festival called Woodstock, gasping over a madman named Charles Manson, cringing over the news from Chappaquidick, smiling at TV creations called Big Bird and Sesame Street, and wondering whatever else could possibly happen in the last year of a decade that was filled with assassinations, explorations, and youthful turbulence.

Four hours into the eleventh day of 1970, Len Dawson got out of bed to go to work. He dressed quietly in the dark, letting his roommate sleep.

Stram woke up an hour later. His eyes burned from watching film the night before. His stomach was knotted from the ordeal with Dawson. But his first thoughts were of the weather. All week it had been uncommonly cold. New Orleans was having a record freeze. Stram remembered the fountain outside the team's hotel the second day in town. The water was frozen solid. It also had rained, and local residents worried that their plumbing and pipes might freeze.

Stram opened his curtains. The sun was not up yet. Stram stared at the blackness anyway. Minutes later he was taking one of his usual early-morning walks with Monsignor Vincent Mackey, an old friend. The walks were a form of therapy. But in New Orleans that week they took place under dark, swollen skies. Stram had joked with the priest that the Vikings, who supposedly had every advantage anyway, had brought one more with them: Minnesota weather. Stram said he was disappointed in Monsignor Mackey, adding, "I'm going to have to trade you."



"My first thoughts when I woke up? I was hungry.... Hungry for it all. I wanted it all. First breakfast, then the world championship."

—JOE KAPP

Stram was not worried about Dawson. He had known his quarterback since 1955, when he was an assistant at Purdue and Dawson was an All-America. That was fourteen years earlier.

"He was always at his best when things were toughest," Stram says. "I knew this whole mess was eating away at him. But he never complained and he never let it show. The day after his father died during the regular season, he insisted on playing. He passed for more than 300 yards against the Jets, then rushed to catch a plane for the funeral. Len was always Joe Cool; I knew he'd be able to put everything aside for the Super Bowl."

Stram's Sunday walk with the priest was mildly encouraging. The temperature was in the 40s. But when they returned to the hotel they found a tornado warning had been given for the area.

"A tornado," Stram said. "What else could possibly happen?" Outside of town, across from the airport, at the hotel where the Vikings were staying, Bud Grant slept peacefully. He always put football in perspective, believing in hard work and intense preparation. . .and then playing the game.

"Losing isn't like dying as some people have suggested," he says now. "It simply wasn't the end of the world to lose that game to Kansas City. What's older than yesterday's newspaper? There's a new hero every day. There's a new winner and a new loser. Calling it the Super Bowl is a correct connotation. It is one game, for the highest stakes, and that appeals to America. It is one game and it's a super one. But it isn't like dying."

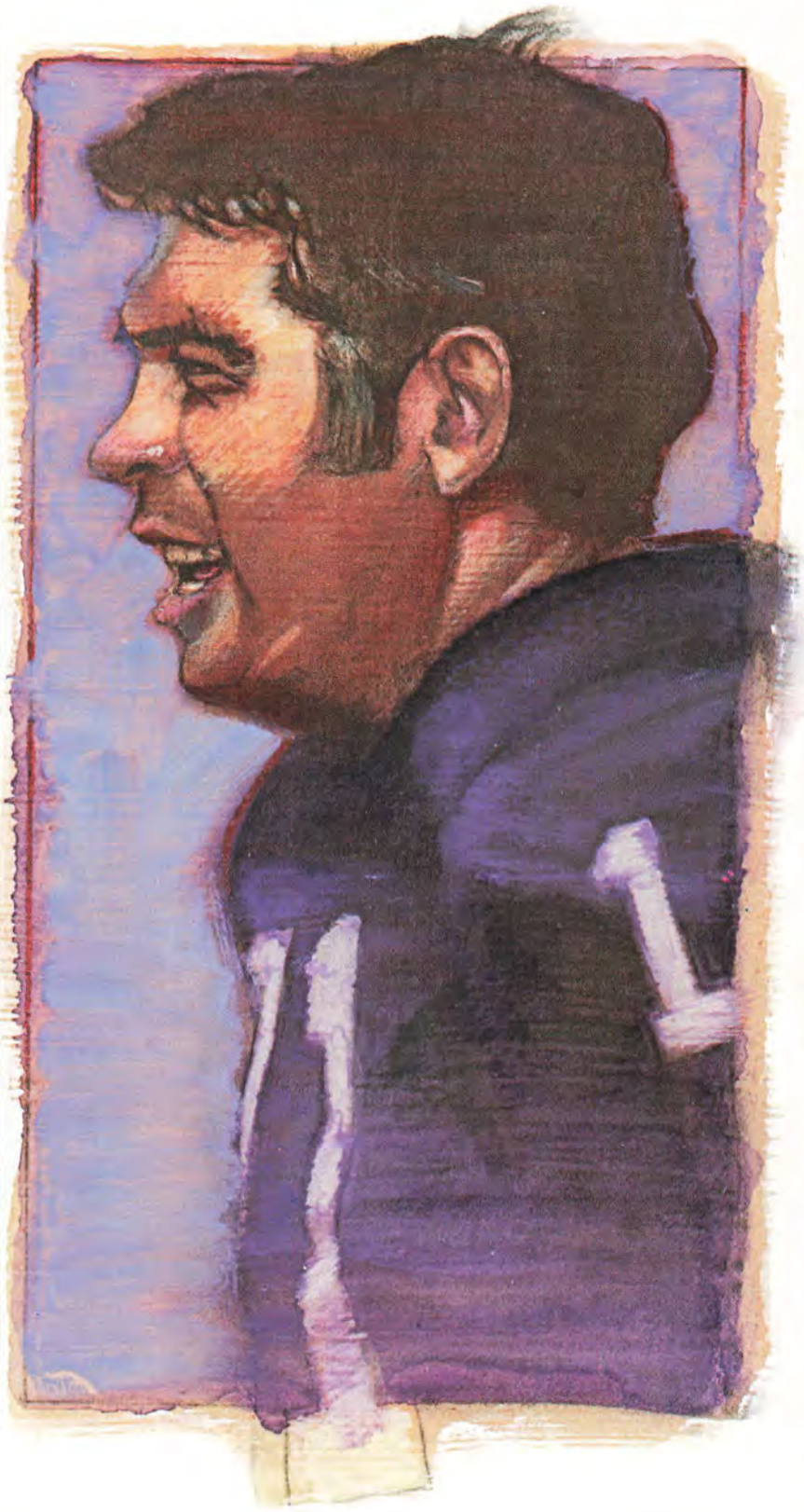
It is the same outlook Grant had 20 years ago. All week he'd downplayed his team's reported superiority. He'd downplayed the supposed avant-garde theories of Stram and the Chiefs with their triple-stack defense and movable pocket. Grant's idea of going out on a limb was to suggest that neither team "will be able to run away from the other. Each defense is too good. I expect a low-scoring game."

Joe Kapp also was still asleep before dawn that day. The Vikings' quarterback carried himself with a swagger, had a cackling laugh, and a rebel image.

He had spurned the NFL and gone to the Canadian Football League out of college at California. He came to the Vikings in 1967 and immediately became their leader. In 1969, he came up with the phrase "40 for 60," meaning every player must devote every minute to the cause. It was the Vikings' battle cry.

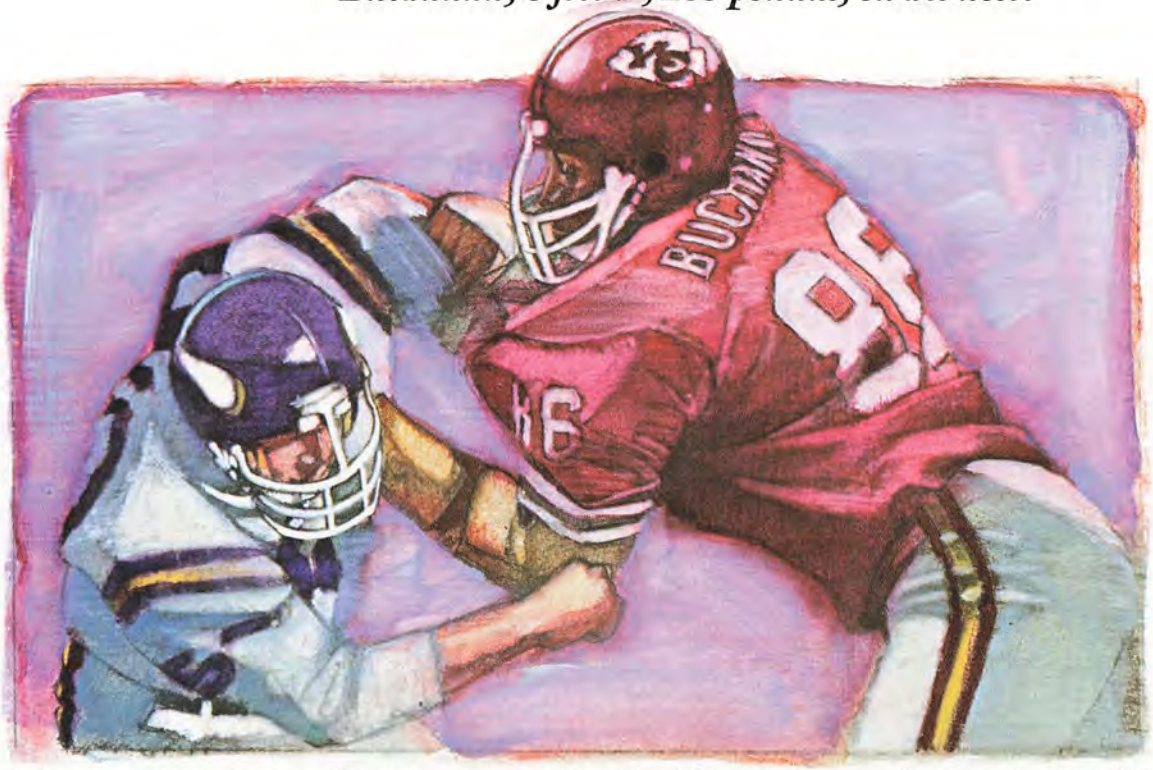
Kapp was not the standard prototype quarterback. "Most quarterbacks look for somewhere to run out of bounds," Grant had deadpanned earlier in the week. "Mine looks for someone to run into."

Kapp's face was a map of his life. A creased forehead, a nose that looked like a stepped-on biscuit, an intriguing scar



Len's Nightmare, Len's Dream

"So we'll keep him [Mick Tingelhoff, Minnesota's center] occupied, too," Stram said. Then he put Buck Buchanan, 6 feet 7 , 285 pounds, on his nose.



that ran along his jaw. Kapp was a brawler. He was not very pretty to watch. But he was the consummate winner. After the Vikings crushed a good Cleveland team 27-7 to win the NFL title, Kapp took one long drink from a huge champagne bottle, letting the wine run down his chin. Then he turned to the nearest locker and smashed the bottle into shards. He said he'd drink the whole bottle when the Vikings won the whole championship.

Kapp blazed with charisma and seethed with passion but he resisted the temptation to repeat Joe Namath's boast before Super Bowl III.

"Naw, I don't make guarantees," Kapp snarled. "We're going out to rock and sock with the Chiefs. No predictions, no guarantees. Just may the best team win."

Kapp had a mischievious wink. It was his nature to be confident, almost arrogant. When he woke up on the morning of Super Bowl IV, he thought about how much fun it was to be in New Orleans. It was a long way from the lettuce fields of Salinas, California, where he'd first played football. It also was a long way from British Columbia, where he'd led the Lions to the CFL championship.

"My first thoughts when I woke up?" Kapp says, trying to remember. "I was hungry. I was always hungry. Hungry for it all. I wanted it all. First breakfast, then the world championship."

Len Dawson had crackers and warm milk for breakfast. He knew they were all he could keep down. He had spent most of his non-practice time the week before in his room. One evening, Robinson, who had gone to college at LSU, convinced Dawson to accompany him to an oyster bar off the beaten path. "But that was before the walls started closing in on Lenny," Robinson says. Most of Dawson's week was spent behind the locked door of Room 858 of the Fountainbleu Hotel on Tulane Street.

Stram's film studies with his staff had told them a lot about the Vikings. The Minnesota secondary played very soft, usually at least nine yards deep. What kept opposing teams from throwing underneath the Vikings' zone? Why didn't opponents dink them to death?

"I watched a film of their game with Cleveland and saw the Browns tried to do just that," Stram says. "But the Vikings had Carl Eller and Jim Marshall, two outstanding defensive ends. They constantly got their hands up and either knocked down the passes or pressured the quarterback. We decided that if we could keep those two occupied with double-team blocking, they wouldn't be able to put up their arms."

Stram also noticed the extreme aggressiveness of the Vikings—"You don't get called Purple People Eaters by being passive"—and felt they might be susceptible to traps and reverses and other plays.

Dawson wound up completing 12 of 17 passes, almost all of them underneath patterns, square-outs, hitches, and curls.

Defensively, the Chiefs were concerned with the Vikings' inside trapping game. Minnesota center Mick Tingelhoff was an all-pro. He was quick off the ball and excellent at cutting down linebackers.

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Len's Nightmare, Len's Dream

"When Jan [Stenerud] came onto the field to kick the forty-eight yarder, you could see the disbelief by the Vikings. They could not believe we weren't punting."

—HANK STRAM

"So we'll keep him occupied too, just like Eller and Marshall," Stram said to his assistants.

The NFL did not see many 3-4 defensive alignments in 1969. That was the Chiefs' staple. Stram put Buck Buchanan, all 6 feet 7 inches and 285 pounds of him, directly in front of Tingelhoff. To block any Kansas City linebackers, the Vikings center would have to dispose of Buchanan first.

"We also used our triple stack [linebackers lined up directly behind linemen] and I don't think they'd seen that too much, either," Stram says.

The Vikings wound up rushing for only two first downs the entire game.

"Our game plan was very simple, very basic," Stram says. "The Vikings were very typical of NFL teams then. They were like the Packers, who in essence said, 'Here's what we do. Try to stop us.' They executed and won. And when they didn't execute. . .well, that's how we beat them."

Jerry Burns was the Vikings' offensive coordinator that day. Today he's the Vikings' head coach. He says it's hard to remember a lot of specifics from that game because "so little went right for us that maybe I've blocked it out."

"But my most vivid impression," Burns says, "was in pregame warm-ups. I was in awe of their kickers. Their punter [Jerrel Wilson] was kicking them as high as the lights. And their placekicker [Jan Stenerud] was routinely kicking fifty-yarders.

"We were a team that depended upon field position. Our offense was not exceptional, but our defense was. It was the job of the offense to not jeopardize things for the defense. But that punter was going to put us in trouble. I knew it in pregame. Then their placekicker hit three field goals and they got up on us. We were not a very good come-from-behind team. Not many knew this because we were not behind very much that season. But those two kickers dictated a lot of what we could do that day. And what we couldn't do."

Wilson averaged 48.5 yards on four punts during Super Bowl IV. Stenerud kicked field goals of 48, 32, and 25 yards, and added two extra points.

"I don't care if you're Jesse Owens," Stram says. "If you have to run a hundred yards and Sam Sausage only has to go forty, Sam's going to win almost every time. We kept the Vikings penned up. We had the better field position all day. And when Jan came onto the field to kick the forty-eight-yarder, you could see the disbelief by the Vikings. They could not believe we weren't punting."

Field position, ball control, and error-free execution are not exactly revolutionary goals. Every football coach wants them. Stram and Grant both went over those ideals in their pregame talks. Football is a game of efficiency. Mistakes are high atop the list of Thou Shalt Nots in pro football.

The Vikings fumbled three times and lost two of them. They threw three interceptions and were penalized six times. "We committed more mental mistakes in four quarters than we did the whole rest of the season combined," said Vikings safety Karl Kassulke.

As the Chiefs came into their locker room to get dressed, they shrieked with joy over the conspicuous patches that were sewn on their shoulders. The patches said "AFL-10," signifying the tenth and final year of being considered outsiders and stepchildren.

"It really lit us up," said Willie Lanier, the Chiefs' linebacker. "We knew what it all meant."

Just before they went back onto the field, Stram was told he had a long-distance telephone call. President Richard Nixon was on the line.

Stram said Nixon wanted to wish the Chiefs good luck and to tell Len Dawson that he shouldn't worry about the allegations.

"I don't know that it constituted a presidential pardon," Stram said after the game, "but it sure made Leonard feel better."

An ominous note was sounded in the pregame festivities. A proposed balloon race—one guided by a man dressed as a Viking and another by a man in war bonnet and buckskins—began prematurely as the Viking balloon took flight. The brief flight ended when the gondola crashed into a section of the end zone.

And the National Anthem was supposed to be recited by actor Pat O'Brien and accompanied by trumpeter Doc Severinsen, but it also was botched because either O'Brien's microphone didn't work or Severinsen's trumpet drowned out the words.

When the game started, and Stenerud kicked three field goals for a 9-0 second-quarter lead, the Vikings sensed desperation closing in. It was time to get something started.

Minnesota's Charlie West settled under Stenerud's kickoff. The swirling wind had been playing tricks all day. Suddenly West had to dive for the ball. Just as quickly, Remi Prudhomme, a reserve lineman for the Chiefs, recovered the fumble at the Vikings' 19-yard line.

Kansas City worked the ball to the 5-yard line, where the Vikings were at their toughest. Stram called for a play named 65 Toss Power Trap.

"We knew about their great tackle Alan Page's quickness off the ball," Stram says. "We felt if he ever lined up in the gap between guard and tackle we could trap him. Pull our tackle Jim Tyrer to set the trap. Then let guard Mo Moorman close it. The problem was Page usually lined up in the gap between the center and the guard. But I called the play anyway. And when I saw Page move over between our guard and tackle I almost squealed."

Running back Mike Garrett, a Heisman Trophy winner at USC in 1965, ran right through the hole Page would have occupied to score the game's first touchdown.

Len's Nightmare, Len's Dream

"Go Chiefs, world champions," Bell shouted as a single tear rolled into one corner of his smile.

The 16-0 halftime lead left the capacity crowd stunned. The halftime show, a reenactment of the Battle of New Orleans, between the Americans and the British Redcoats, became mangled when the Andrew Jackson figure was dumped off his horse that became spooked by the sound of cannon fire. The Redcoats appeared to be winning the battle—which would have qualified as an even larger upset than the Chiefs'—when the two teams reappeared for the second half.

Grant had no particular message for his team in the locker room. Just play better, he said.

The Chiefs held the ball for almost six minutes of the third quarter before the Vikings finally got it. And they finally went somewhere with it.

A 69-yard drive ended with Dave Osborn following tackle Ron Yary into the end zone. A crackle of anticipation filled the stadium. The Vikings had rallied from behind to beat the Rams in round one of the playoffs; there still was plenty of time. This was a team that had scored more than 50 points in a game three times during the season. Kapp threw seven touchdown passes in one game. The clock said there was plenty of opportunity to preserve the wisdom of Jimmy the Greek and restore the tarnishing image of the NFL.

On the Chiefs' sideline, Stram huddled with Dawson. The coach had agreed to be wired for sound by NFL Films for a special documentary. And the crisp, confident way Stram approached what could have been a key part of the game said a lot about him, his team, and the AFL.

"Let's put out that fire, Leonard," Stram said. "Let's make sure they don't get any closer."

Dawson, his stoic face refusing to reflect any emotion, nodded and headed onto the field.

A third-down situation quickly developed. Seven yards were needed for the first down. The alternative was to surrender the ball back to the suddenly charged Vikings.

Coaching is preparation and leadership. But also spontaneity. Stram stood and looked at the situation and called for the end-around.

"It had worked twice already," he says. "I don't know if the Vikings ever saw us run it on film. But they were so aggressive that I just had the feeling it would work again."

Frank Pitts curled around, took the handoff, and raced for seven yards. He made the first down with three or four inches to spare.

At the Vikings' 46, Dawson called for a quick hitch pass to his other wide receiver, Otis Taylor.

"The Vikings' safety, Paul Krause, was coming on the blitz," Dawson says. "If I'd called for a pocket pass or anything long, I'd have been in trouble. But it was a simple, quick pass. It's designed to pick up six or seven yards."

Dawson smiles at the memory and adds, "Unless Otis breaks the tackle."

Cornerback Earsell Mackbee of the Vikings closed in on Taylor, then felt his arm go numb. Mackbee had suffered a pinched nerve in his neck in the NFL title game.

"I couldn't feel anything," he said later.

Taylor spun away and raced down the sideline. Safety Karl Kassulke bit on Taylor's fake to the inside and missed. The touchdown play snuffed out any Vikings momentum. In the fourth quarter, all three Minnesota possessions ended in interceptions. Kapp, who was forced to pass exclusively in hopes of getting the Vikings back in the game, took a beating. The Chiefs' defense made him a target. He was helped off the field midway through the final period with a bruised shoulder.

With two minutes to play, Stram sent backup Mike Livingston into the game to replace Dawson. "I wanted Lenny to hear the cheers, to know how everyone felt."

The Chiefs even applauded their quarterback as he headed for the sideline. The final moments of the American Football League were uneventful. The message already had been delivered, and Kansas City won 23-7.

"Oh, they proved they belonged, all right," Jerry Burns says. "They were an excellent team that day. Nobody could argue that they were not up to NFL caliber."

Bud Grant also conceded the better team had won. Asked if he felt strange or somehow embarrassed about losing, Grant said with typical succinctness, "No. We played the best we could today. It wasn't good enough by a long margin. But God will forgive me—that's His job."

In the Kansas City locker room, Chiefs linebacker Bobby Bell sat with his eyes closed, then shouted, "I knew I made the right choice! I knew it!"

Bell had been an All-America at the University of Minnesota and had been drafted by both the Chiefs and the Vikings.

"Go Chiefs, world champions," Bell shouted as a single tear rolled into one corner of his smile.

Stram found his way over to Dawson, cupped both hands around his quarterback's face and said, "Lenny..."

Dawson said, "Yeah, it's great, really great."

"No, Lenny, you have a phone call."

Dawson walked to the phone, stuck a finger in his right ear, and listened as President Nixon offered his personal congratulations to the game's most valuable player.

Then back to the celebration. Dawson seemed more numb than anything. Perhaps too much had been held within. Now it was hard to let go. He said he did not feel any sense of vindication. He said he had endured a lot but he felt worse for his family. He said it was a relief and it was meaningful but he felt more tired than anything else.

Pete Rozelle came into the room with a trophy. CBS cameras recorded it all, and 60 million watched it. All everyone wanted to talk about was football. ◆

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HOT STUFF!

If You Like a Little Spice in Your Food, Music, and Company, New Orleans Is the Place to Find It

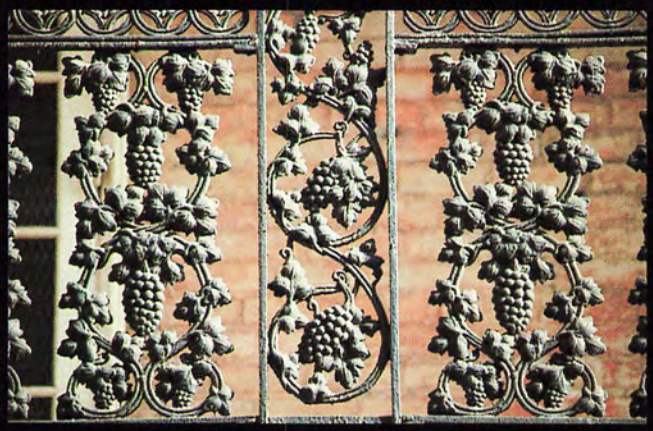
New Orleans—or N'awlins to anyone from southern Louisiana—probably takes the pursuit of a good time more seriously than any other North American city. Merriment is more than an occasional outburst in the Big Easy, it's practically a way of life. Maybe it's the city's confluence of two cultures, the easy-going hospitality of the Deep South combined with the passion of the Cajuns, who were exiled to Louisiana from French Canada. Perhaps it's the irresistible local cuisine—from jambalaya to shrimp gumbo to pan-blackened catfish—that has mounted a steady invasion upon upscale American restaurants in the last decade. It probably has something to do with the music, too. New Orleans is a city of pulsing, lilting sound, and every musical persuasion can be satisfied within its borders. New Orleans also is a treat for the eyes, as evidenced in the following pictorial profile.

The Louisiana Superdome (above), which seats 69,548, was added to the downtown skyline in 1975.

Music often goes outside in New Orleans; it stands in doorways and spills into streets (opposite).

Jim Cornfield

HOT STUFF!



David Boss

David Boss

Ross Lewis

The detailed work on the gates, ceilings, and iron grills (top) of the French Quarter bear a close look.

Fun can be found any time of day or night on Bourbon Street (right), in the heart of the French Quarter.

Preservation Hall (above), with its legendary house band, is one of New Orleans's jazz meccas.

GUNG!

HOT STUFF!

The old St. Charles Street Car Line (below) takes passengers past many of the city's preserved mansions.

Jackson Square (right), named for President Andrew Jackson, allows a glimpse of the city's history.

Ross Lewis

David Boss

Above-ground burial—much of the region is below sea level—results in visually striking cemeteries (left).

David Boss

Baron Wolman

Day or night, tourists inevitably end up at Cafe du Monde (left) for coffee and the house specialty—beignets.

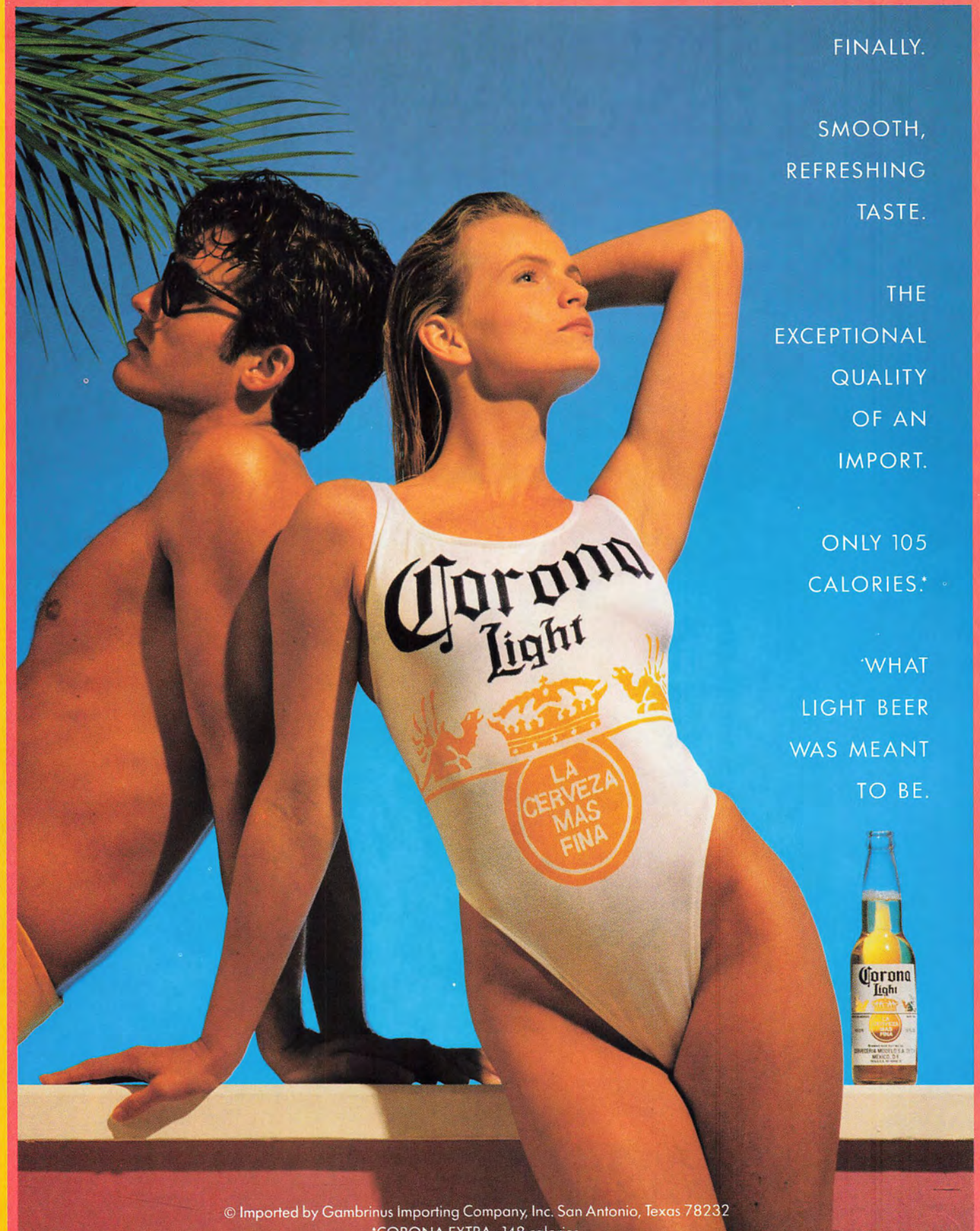
Baron Wolman

Baron Wolman

Leaving New Orleans to the north entails crossing shallow, 600-square-mile Lake Pontchartrain (above).

To the west and south lies the mysterious bayou (left), an isolated maze of swamp and submerged flora. ◆

THE FINAL EVOLUTION OF LIGHT



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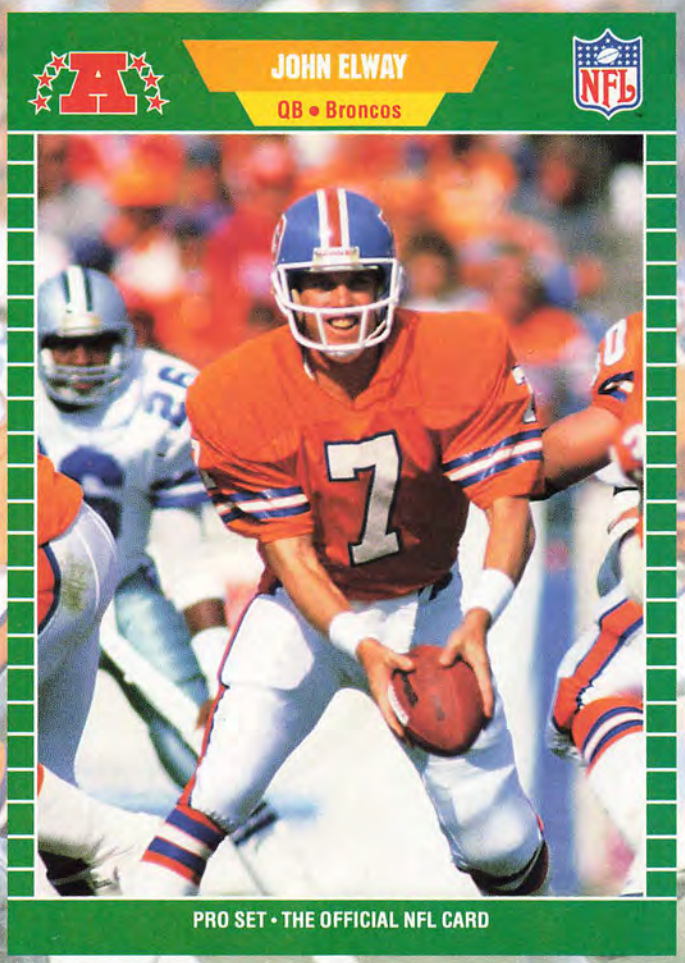

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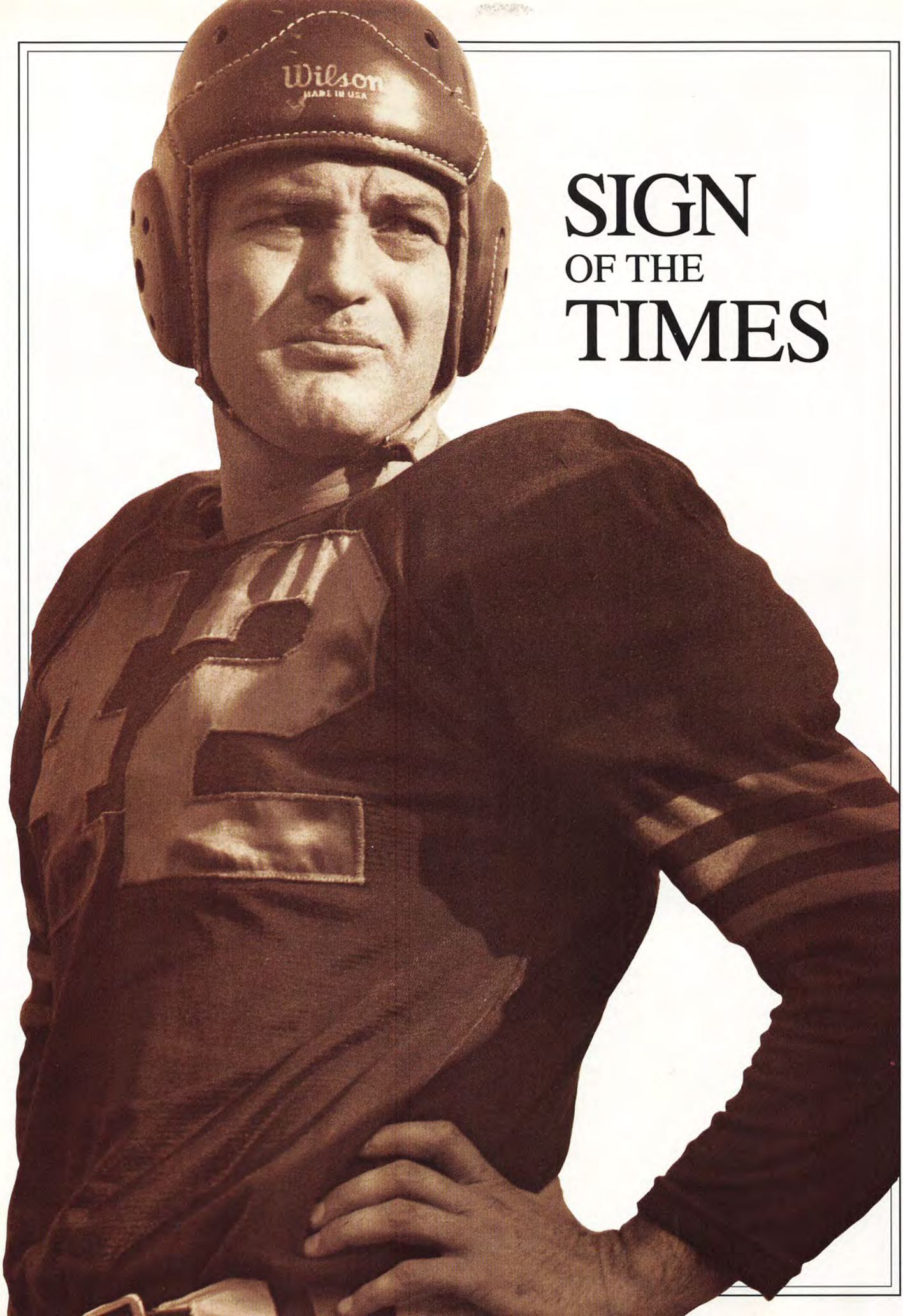
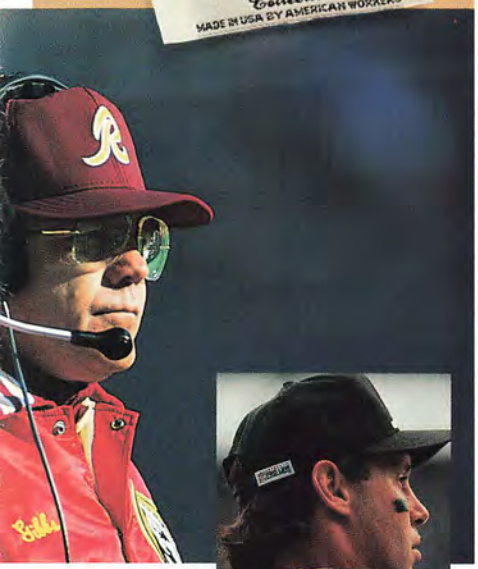


SIGN OF THE TIMES

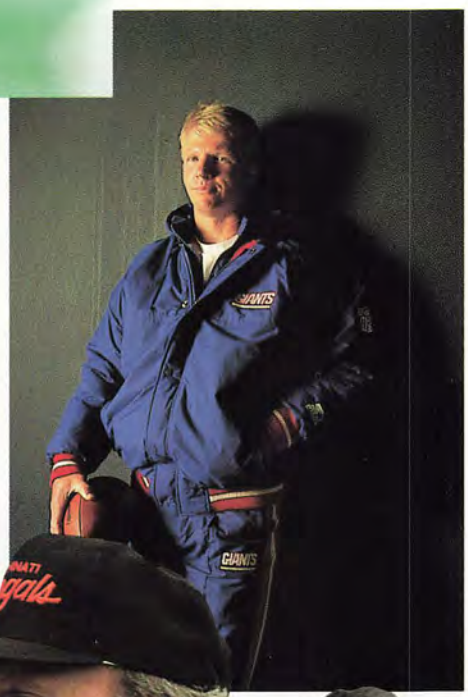
AJD HAS ALSO DESIGNED SPECIAL HATS FOR GREEN BAY'S LINDY INFANTE, BUDDY RYAN OF THE EAGLES AND SAINTS OWNER TOM BENSON.



York's media. Since then, NFL sidelines have become heavily populated by team staffers adorned in Cliff Engle apparel.

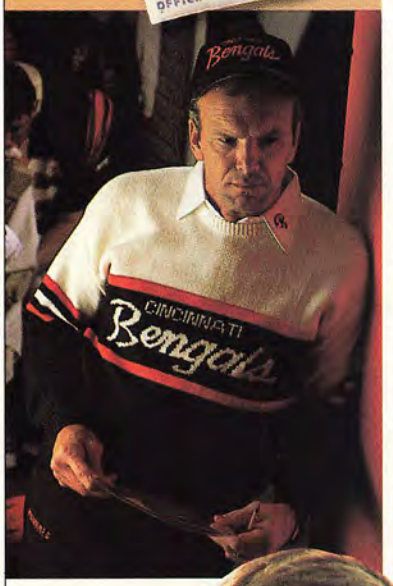
One coach who didn't require such obvious team identification was Tom Landry, the leader of the Dallas Cowboys for nearly three decades. Equally as identifiable to the Landry persona was his Dobbs hat, a fashion accessory that became his trademark. AJD, manufacturers of the Dobbs headwear, realized that not every coach was prepared to copy the Landry look. A successful alternative was AJD's introduction of coaches caps, first customized for Redskins Coach Joe Gibbs. AJD has also designed special hats for Green Bay's Lindy Infante, Buddy Ryan of the

Giants' quarterback Phil Simms relies on Starter parkas to keep his hot passing arm at the desired temperature.



TO *BECOME* NFL WORLD CHAMPIONS, IT TAKES HOURS OF WORK ON THE PRACTICE FIELD, AND THAT'S WHERE STARTER SPORTSWEAR EXCELS.

NFL SIDELINES HAVE BECOME HEAVILY POPULATED BY TEAM STAFFERS ADORNED IN CLIFF ENGLE APPAREL.



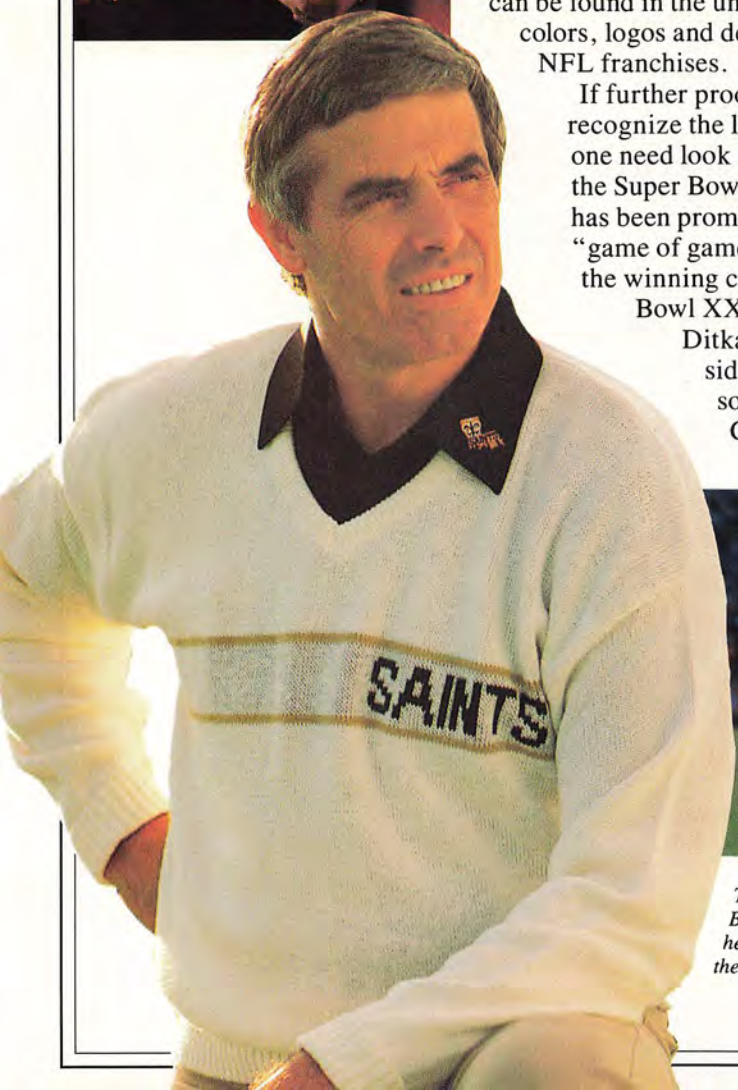
In the NFL, clothes truly do make the man. And with the help of NFL Pro Line, players, coaches—and ultimately the fans have become members of the fashion-conscious smart set. From practice sweats to gameday jerseys... coaching caps to satin jackets, Pro Line and its participating manufacturers have rolled out a starting lineup of authentic apparel that puts players and fans alike in fashionable playoff contention.

Six major participants in the Pro Line program include industry giants Champion, Wilson, Starter, AJD, Cliff Engle and Sports Specialties. Each has tailored its apparel to the changing tastes of the marketplace and the changing times in professional football. Says Starter's Dan Raskin, "The entire industry of leisure and sportswear is evolving. We're using better materials, experimenting with fabrics on fabrics. What the teams—and the fans get is contemporary fashion with a base in tradition." That tradition, of course, can be found in the unmistakable team colors, logos and designs of the 28 NFL franchises.

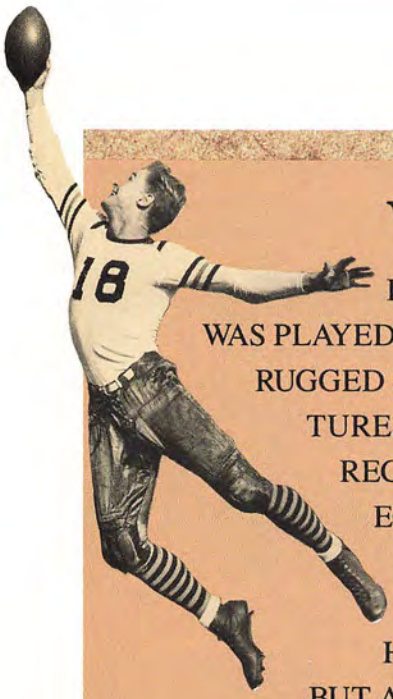
If further proof be needed to recognize the league's growth, one need look no further than the Super Bowl. NFL Pro Line has been prominent in this "game of games", starting with the winning coaches. In Super Bowl XX, Chicago's Mike Ditka stalked the sidelines in a handsomely-tailored Cliff Engle sweater. The same was true with the Giants' Bill Parcells in Super Bowl XXI. Ditto the Redskins' Joe Gibbs in XXII. And in Super Bowl XXIII, Sam Wyche of the Bengals came within seconds of being the fourth consecutive game-winning coach to be clothed by Cliff Engle.

Joe Walton of the Jets was the first to wear an Engle team sweater, debuting his finery during a nationally televised Monday night game. Since Walton did not exactly have the reputation of being a fashion plate, his sudden "change" for the better drew rave reviews from New

Has anyone ever seen Washington's Joe Gibbs when he wasn't wearing his ADJ coach's cap?

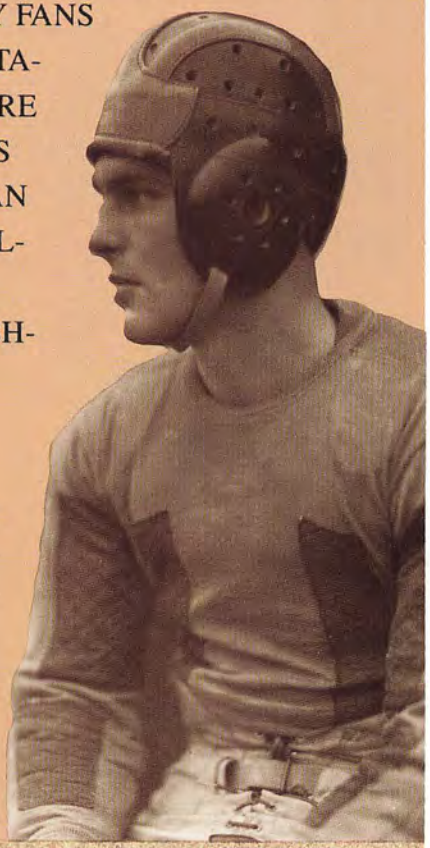


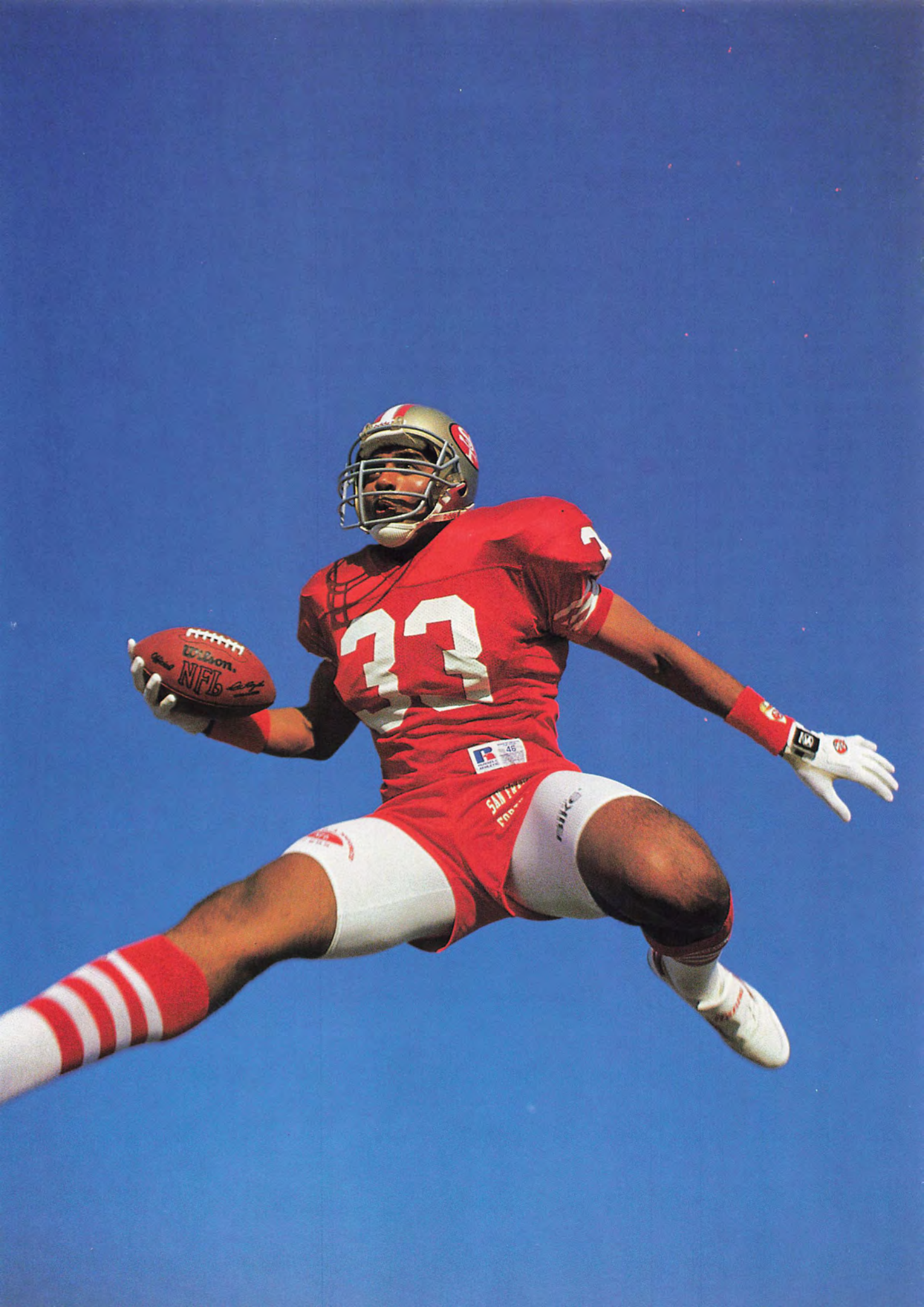
The Saints' Jim Mora, Sam Wyche of the Bengals and the Chiefs' Marty Schottenheimer make Cliff Engle sweaters a part of their regular sideline attire.



WHEN THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE WAS BORN IN 1920, THE GAME WAS PLAYED BY COAL MINERS AND DRIFTERS ON RUGGED SANDLOTS AND ABANDONED PASTURES. CROWDS WERE SPARSE AND GATE RECEIPTS LOW. THE UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT WERE DRAB AND BARELY FUNCTIONAL. PLAYERS WORE SPARTAN CLOTHES THAT REFLECTED HARD TIMES.

BUT AS THE NFL APPROACHES ITS 70TH ANNIVERSARY, THE GAME IS MUCH DIFFERENT FROM THE QUAINT ERA OF ITS INFANCY. THE ONCE-REGIONAL SPORT IS FOLLOWED AVIDLY BY FANS AROUND THE GLOBE. PLUSH STADIUMS AND HIGH-TECH TV'S ARE THE SHOWPLACES FOR TODAY'S PLAYERS, WHO ARE MORE THAN JUST ATHLETES. THEY ARE TELEGENIC PERSONALITIES WHO REFLECT THE TASTES AND FASHIONS OF THE TIMES BY THE STYLE IN WHICH THEY PRESENT THEMSELVES. ENTERING THE NINETIES, PRO FOOTBALL HAS CHANGED, AND NOWHERE IS THIS DIFFERENCE MORE OBVIOUS THAN IN THE MANNER ITS PARTICIPANTS WEAR THEIR SUNDAY BEST.




Wilson
NFL
23

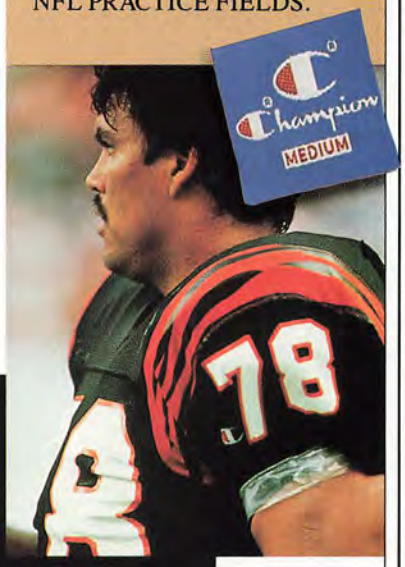
one of the NFL's founding fathers. When the Pittsburgh patriarch wrote a personal letter to the company praising the caps and predicting success, Sports Specialities knew they had a winner on their hands.

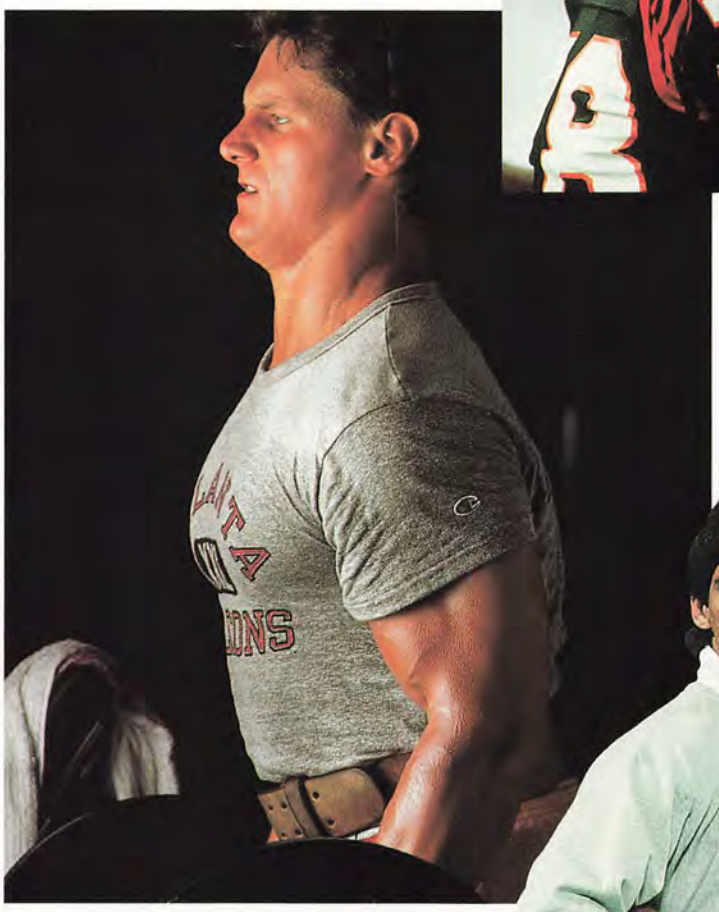
Rooney's support came when Pro Line began in 1984. But the NFL's flagship franchise, the Chicago Bears, have been partners with Wilson Sporting Goods since the days of World War II. In 1941, owner and coach George Halas needed equipment but couldn't pay Wilson all the money he owed. The company put the team on installments, an act the Bears would not forget. 50 years later, the two are still together, and in recent years, the Chiefs, Seahawks, Broncos and Dolphins have all relied on Wilson for their game jerseys. Wilson also makes the official NFL game ball, used on every play from scrimmage.

Nearly all the teams use Champion sporting goods in one form or another, too. Champion's tee shirts, workout sweats and fleece front snap jackets are staples on NFL practice fields. Champion was also one of the first manufacturers to add team logos to their product, and have custom-designed their garments to each team's requests.

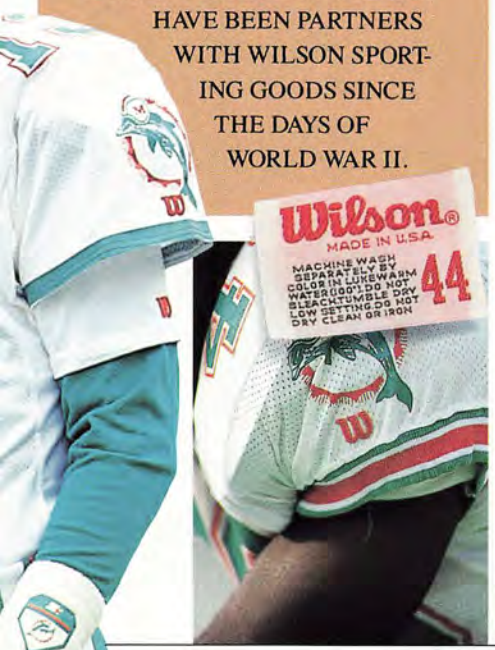
The Cincinnati Bengals were especially interested in tailoring Champion's game jerseys. Cincy's mammoth offensive line was tired of loose-fitting shirts that allowed defenders to grab and push, so Champion's designers came up with a tighter sheen and lycra inserts. This suited Bengal behemoths like Anthony Munoz and Brian Blados, who prefer their sleeves tight enough to impede blood circulation. Along with the Bengals, the Jets, Bills and Colts keep plenty of Champion sportswear in their gameday lockers.

CHAMPION'S TEE SHIRTS, WORKOUT SWEATS AND FLEECE FRONT SNAP JACKETS ARE STAPLES ON NFL PRACTICE FIELDS.

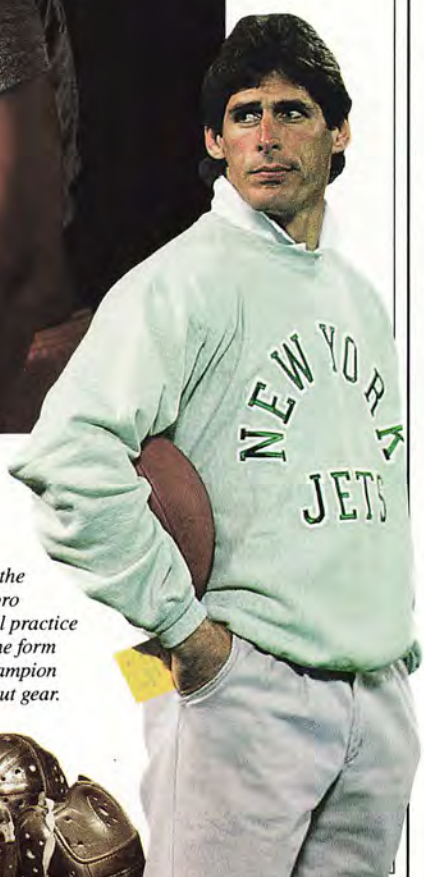




THE NFL'S FLAGSHIP FRANCHISE, THE CHICAGO BEARS, HAVE BEEN PARTNERS WITH WILSON SPORTING GOODS SINCE THE DAYS OF WORLD WAR II.


Wilson
MADE IN U.S.A.
MACHINE WASH SEPARATELY BY COLOR IN LUKEWARM WATER (100°) DO NOT BLEACH TUMBLE DRY LOW SETTING DO NOT DRY CLEAN OR IRON
44

Virtually all the teams in pro football practice in some form of Champion workout gear.



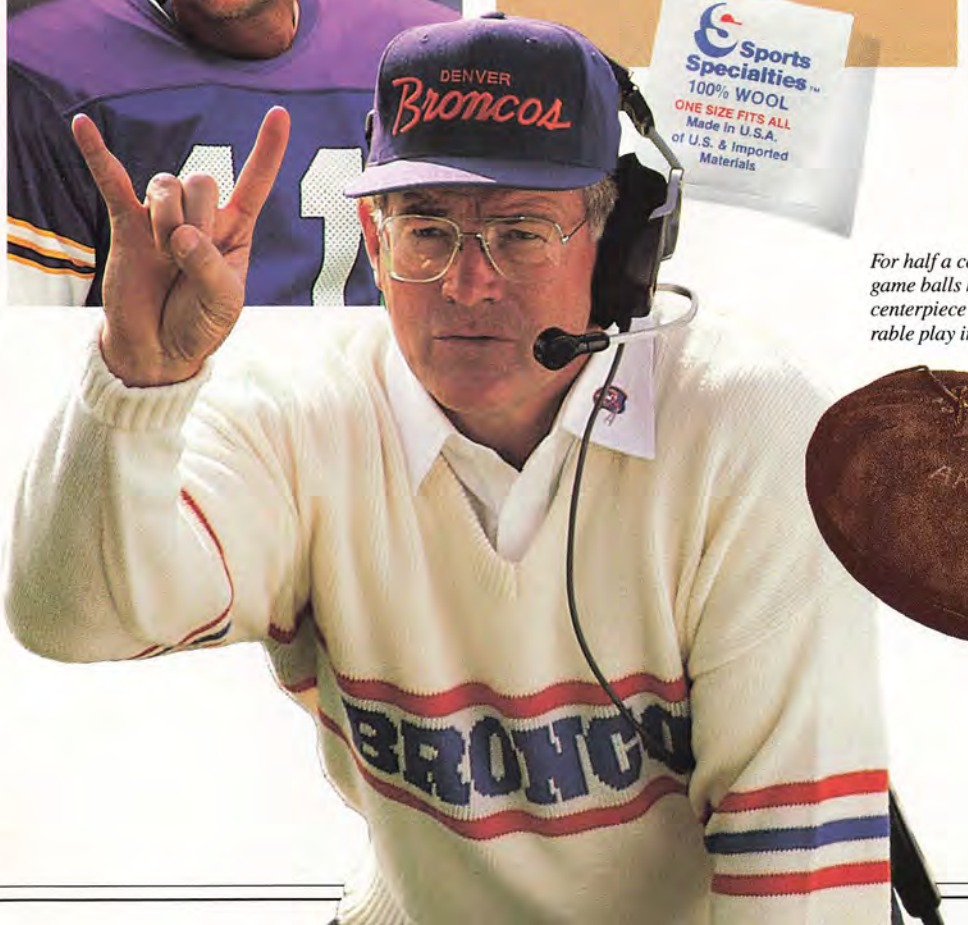
Eagles and Saints owner Tom Benson, who requested caps bearing the likeness of the state of Louisiana. These customized capabilities have proven beneficial in the manufacturing of World Champion caps for the victorious locker room on Super Bowl Sunday. No network TV postgame interview would be complete without them.

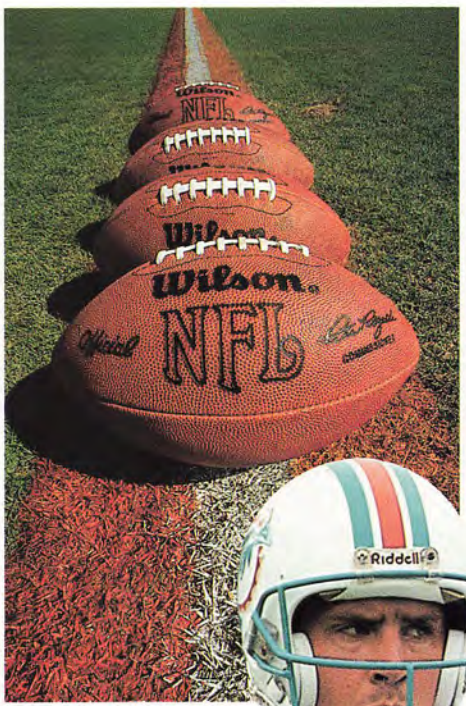
To *become* NFL world champions, it takes hours of work on the practice field, and that's where Starter Sportswear excels. Tee shirts, sweats, equipment bags and jackets are all part of Starter's lineup. It's hard to imagine cool and confident Giant's linebacker Lawrence Taylor ever getting sweaty palms, but L.T. sports Starter wristbands just in case. Starter has also enjoyed much success with its line of satin jackets, with several teams contributing to their design. And when the weather turns harsh, Starter's hooded and non-hooded layered parkas keep players and coaches toasty.

No doubt that same warm feeling grips the 28 young athletes selected as first round picks each year in the NFL college draft. And Sports Specialities has caps ready for these "chosen ones" as they are tapped by their new team. Sports Specialties' distinctive script design has become commonplace on every NFL sideline and is a departure from other caps made from double-knit polyester or cotton twill. These caps are 100% wool, and can be seen on quarterbacks wearing headsets and NFL chain gangs on the sidelines. The first item ever available under the Pro Line Logo, it got a welcomed vote of confidence from Steelers' owner Art Rooney, Sr.,

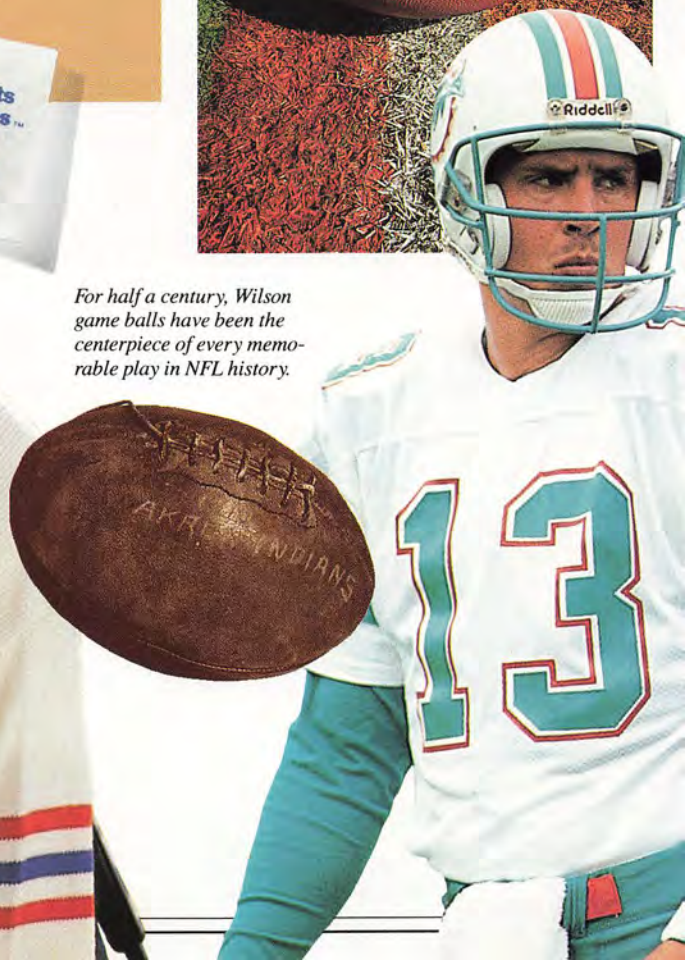
Wade Wilson of the Vikings and Dan Reeves of the Broncos know their Sports Specialties caps are no passing fancy.

SPORTS SPECIALTIES' DISTINCTIVE SCRIPT DESIGN HAS BECOME COMMON PLACE ON EVERY NFL SIDELINE.





For half a century, Wilson game balls have been the centerpiece of every memorable play in NFL history.



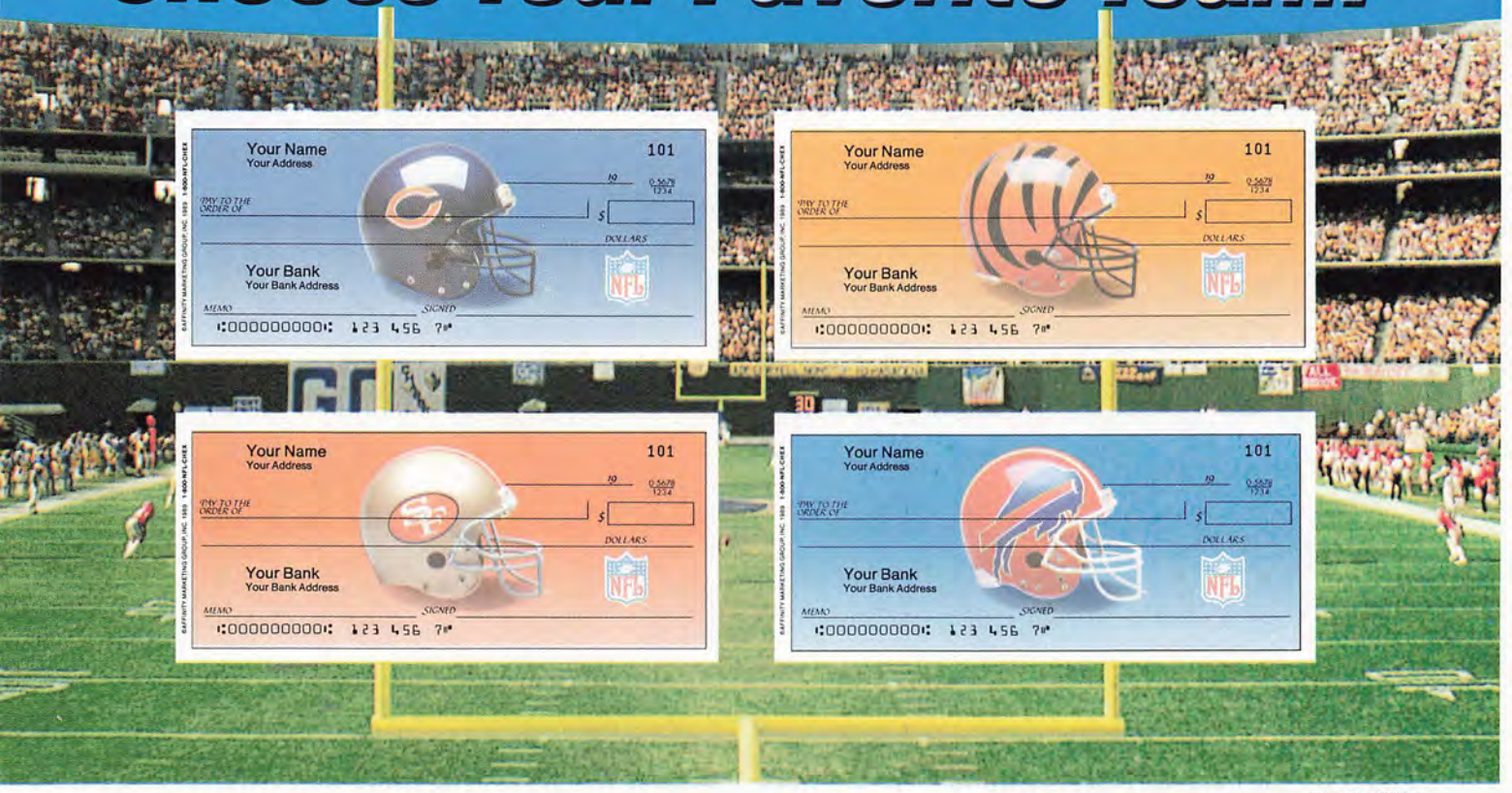
Pro football's pioneer days seem as rustic as a faded family portrait, recalling a bygone era of leather helmets, small towns and muddy faces. Today's game is an equally accurate mirror of our own time—streamlined, modern, colorful and brash. Pro Line products embody that spirit, which accounts for their increasing growth in popularity. There's even a Pro Line For Kids, smaller sizes with the same authentic quality and attention to detail you'll find in team garments. Fans of all ages can now be bound by a common thread—showing their true colors by wearing what the pros wear—fashionable apparel and accessories from Pro Line—the very fabric of the game.

1989 Replay

Week-by-Week Review of the Season in Words and Photographs

By Jim Perry

Choose Your Favorite Team!



Peter Read Miller

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1989 Replay

September 10

EARLY IN THE THIRD quarter in Chicago, Bears quarterback Mike Tomczak threw his second interception of the game and was rewarded with a chorus of boos. Tomczak, 26, was missing receivers all over Soldier Field in his first regular-season game since Jim McMahon was traded to San Diego a few weeks earlier.

Banished to the sideline with the rest of the offense, Tomczak then watched as defending AFC-champion Cincinnati took the ball and drove 66 yards to Ickey Woods's five-yard touchdown run and a 14-7 lead. The Bears rebounded with a field goal, but still trailed 14-10 when they got possession on their own 5-yard line with 11:31 left to play.

David Drapkin

Irving Fryar caught a touchdown pass as the Patriots outlasted the Jets 27-24 at the Meadowlands.

Tomczak, who had completed only 6 of 17 passes with the two interceptions (both by safety Rickey Dixon) to that point, shrugged off his poor field position and marched the Bears 95 yards in 14 plays, hitting four passes for 79 yards. His last completion was a 20-yard touchdown strike to tight end James Thornton with 4:54 left, and Chicago won week one's biggest showdown 17-14.

"I don't care how much people boo, scream, or holler," Bears head coach Mike Ditka said. "Mike did a fine job."

Tomczak also ran 11 yards on a quarterback draw to score the Bears' first touchdown with 10 seconds left in the first half, and he got significant support from Neal Anderson, who rushed for 146 yards.

There were three other interconference games between top teams on opening day. And, like the last five Super Bowls, the NFC won them all. The Vikings drilled the Oilers 38-7, the Eagles shot down the Seahawks 31-7, and the 49ers opened defense of their NFL championship by outlasting the Colts 30-24.

At Indianapolis, former San Francisco defensive coordinator George Seifert made his regular-season debut as Bill Walsh's successor and summed up his first win this way: "Basically, it looked like 49ers football."

In other words, Roger Craig ran for 131 yards and two touchdowns, Joe Montana passed for 233 yards, and Jerry Rice took a quick Montana pass on a Colts blitz and carried it 58 yards for the clinching touchdown. In all, Rice caught six passes for 163 yards.

The Colts, who lost their opening game for the sixth season in a

Scott Cunningham

Raul Allegre made a big kick.

Quote

Marv Rubin

Atlanta rookie **Deion Sanders**, after breaking four tackles on a 68-yard punt return for a touchdown against the Rams: "I felt like a deer with a hundred hunters after me."

He Got Ready at the Bell

Scott Cunningham

Bell got in shape fast.

When running back Greg Bell came to the Los Angeles Rams from Buffalo as part of the Eric Dickerson trade midway through the 1987 season, his career seemed headed downhill.

After rushing for 1,100 yards as a rookie with the Bills in 1984, Bell dropped to 883 the next season, then 377, and then, after being traded to the Rams, he broke his shoulder and plummeted to 86.

In 1988, however, Bell's career was rejuvenated. He rushed for 1,212 yards and led the league with 16 touchdowns.

On opening day, 1989, however, Bell, a holdout for most of training camp (he played only in the last preseason game), was expected to share duties with second-year tailback Gaston Green.

Instead, on a humid day in Atlanta, Bell carried 26 times for 128 yards, scored twice on runs of two and eight yards, and helped Los Angeles open with a 31-21 victory over the Falcons.

"He was an outstanding back today," Rams head coach John Robinson said. "That was as good a performance under the circumstances as I've seen."

Asked if he was surprised by his performance, Bell said, "I'm not. I'm prepared to do one thing, and that's to carry the ball."

The Rams also got outstanding running from quarterback Jim Everett. Everett, who threw a 46-yard "Hail Mary" scoring pass to Henry Ellard on the last play of the first half, also ran 13 yards for a touchdown, prompting Robinson to quip, "Jim gives us a little more depth at tailback."

George Gojkovich

Clay Matthews (57) scored one of three touchdowns by the Browns' defense in a 51-0 rout of the Steelers.

row, got 106 rushing yards from Eric Dickerson, who reached 10,000 career yards faster than any runner in history. He finished the game—his ninety-first—with 10,021 yards. Runner-up Jim Brown passed the 10,000-yard mark in 98 games.

In Minneapolis, the Vikings' front four sacked Houston's Warren Moon seven times—three times by tackle Keith Millard—and held the Oilers to 104 yards and 11 first downs.

"That's probably the best defensive line we'll see all year," Oilers Pro Bowl guard Mike Munchak said.

While the Vikings' defense played tag with Moon, the offense rolled up 29 first downs. Anthony Carter caught seven passes from Wade Wilson for 123 yards and a touchdown while playing only the first half. A training-camp holdout, Carter scored on a 32-yard pass and set up two more touchdowns and a field goal.

In Philadelphia, Randall Cunningham threw two touchdown passes, cornerback Eric Everett returned an interception 30 yards for a touchdown, and safety Andre Waters blocked a punt to set up another score as the Eagles defeated the Seahawks handily. Mike Quick caught six passes for 140 yards and a score.

The game was tied briefly at 7-7 when Seattle's Steve Largent caught a 23-yard touchdown pass to give him 98 in his career—just one behind Don Hutson's NFL mark—but he later left the game with a broken elbow and figured to be out about six weeks.

Five new head coaches were in place on opening day, and, besides the 49ers' Seifert, only Cleveland's Bud Carson started off with a win—but he did it in a big way as the Browns overwhelmed the Steelers 51-0. It was the worst loss in Pittsburgh history and it came at Three Rivers Stadium.

The Browns' defense made it all possible, scoring three touchdowns, forcing eight turnovers that set up 38 points, sacking Bubby Brister six times, and holding the Steelers to 53 yards and five first downs.

Linebacker David Grayson scored twice, once on a 28-yard fumble return and once on a 14-yard interception return, and linebacker Clay Matthews scored on a three-yard fumble return.

"[The game] was real unusual," Matthews said. "I've never seen anything like it. It was almost comical."

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	1	0	0
New England	1	0	0
Indianapolis	0	1	0
Miami	0	1	0
N.Y. Jets	0	1	0
AFC Central			
Cleveland	1	0	0
Cincinnati	0	1	0
Houston	0	1	0
Pittsburgh	0	1	0
AFC West			
Denver	1	0	0
L.A. Raiders	1	0	0
Kansas City	0	1	0
San Diego	0	1	0
Seattle	0	1	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	1	0	0
Philadelphia	1	0	0
Phoenix	1	0	0
Dallas	0	1	0
Washington	0	1	0
NFC Central			
Chicago	1	0	0
Minnesota	1	0	0
Tampa Bay	1	0	0
Detroit	0	1	0
Green Bay	0	1	0
NFC West			
L.A. Rams	1	0	0
New Orleans	1	0	0
San Francisco	1	0	0
Atlanta	0	1	0

Scores

AFC
Buffalo 27, Miami 24
Cleveland 51, Pittsburgh 0
Denver 34, Kansas City 20
L.A. Raiders 40, San Diego 14
New England 27, N.Y. Jets 24
NFC
L.A. Rams 31, Atlanta 21
New Orleans 28, Dallas 0
N.Y. Giants 27, Washington 24
Phoenix 16, Detroit 13
Tampa Bay 23, Green Bay 21
Interconference
Chicago 17, Cincinnati 14
Minnesota 38, Houston 7
Philadelphia 31, Seattle 7
San Francisco 30, Indianapolis 24

Players of the Week

Al Messerschmidt

Bills' Jim Kelly

Al Kooistra

Bears' Dan Hampton

AFC OFFENSE—Jim Kelly, quarterback, Buffalo
Trailing by 11 points, Kelly drove the Bills 82 and 51 yards to touchdowns in the last 4:17 for a 27-24 come-from-behind victory over Miami. With 2:50 left, he drilled a 26-yard touchdown pass to Flip Johnson, and, as time expired, he ran two yards up the middle for the game-winning touchdown.

AFC DEFENSE—David Grayson, linebacker, Cleveland
Grayson became the first player in Browns history to return an interception and a fumble for touchdowns in the same game as Cleveland stunned Pittsburgh 51-0. He scored on a 28-yard fumble return, scored on a 14-yard interception return, forced a fumble, and set up a field goal with another fumble recovery.

NFC OFFENSE—Vinny Testaverde, quarterback, Tampa Bay
Testaverde completed 22 of 27 passes for 205 yards and a touchdown in the Buccaneers' 23-21 victory over the Packers.

NFC DEFENSE—Dan Hampton, defensive tackle, Chicago
As the Bears outlasted Cincinnati 17-14, Hampton blocked a field goal, deflected two passes, had seven tackles—including two sacks of Boomer Esiason—and stopped Ickey Woods short of a first down on fourth-and-1 at the Bears' 18.

Three other new head coaches lost. Dallas and Jimmy Johnson fell to New Orleans 28-0, the Chargers and Dan Henning were routed by the Raiders 40-14, and the Chiefs and Marty Schottenheimer lost 34-20 in Denver.

In New Orleans, the Saints' Bobby Hebert completed 16 of 19 passes to help his offense control the ball for 44 minutes, while Derrick Shepard helped out with a 56-yard punt return for a touchdown.

In Los Angeles, the Raiders' Jay Schroeder threw a touchdown pass in his only series, then left with a slightly separated shoulder. But Steve Beuerlein came in to complete 15 of 22 passes, including a 39-yard touchdown strike to Willie Gault. He also threw a four-yard touchdown pass to Mervyn Fernandez.

All the Raiders' news was not good, however. Wide receiver Tim Brown, who led the NFL in kickoff returns as a rookie in 1988, suffered torn knee ligaments and was lost for the season.

In Denver, the Broncos' revitalized defense scored or set up 24 points in stopping the Chiefs. Cornerback Tyrone Braxton and safety Randy Robbins scored on interception returns.

In Washington, D.C., the Giants' Raul Allegre got the twentieth season of "Monday Night Football" off to a spectacular start by kicking a 52-yard field goal on the game's last play to beat the Redskins 27-24. He had tied the game at 24-24 on a 32-yard field goal with 2:17 left. ◆

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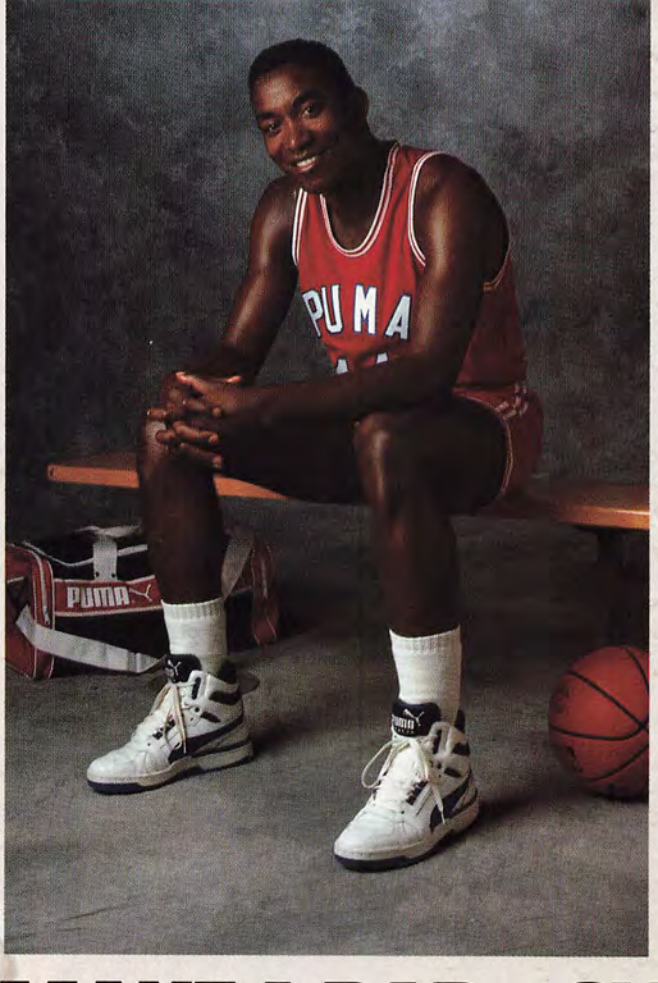

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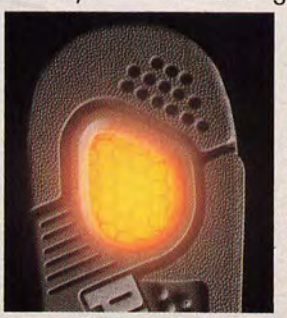

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1989 Replay

September 17

EAGLES QUARTERBACK Randall Cunningham was elated.

"We were down, we were out, but we didn't lose our heads," Cunningham said. "I think this was our biggest game."

It was not only a big game, but also a remarkable game.

Playing in Washington, where they had lost seven of their last eight games, the Eagles fell behind the fired-up Redskins 20-0 in the first quarter, 27-7 in the second, and 30-14 by halftime. But they forced six turnovers, Cunningham passed for 447 yards and five touchdowns, and when the grass had settled, they had won 42-37.

And it was just one of two remarkable comebacks. In Green Bay, the Packers fell behind the Saints 21-0 in the second quarter, then rallied to nip New Orleans 35-34 behind the passing of Don Majkowski.

Passers were hot all over the league, throwing for 7,162 yards—the most in NFL history and 454 more than the old one-week record.

In the shootout in Washington, Cunningham's winning touchdown pass was a lob to tight end Keith Jackson—Jackson's third scoring catch of the day—with 52 seconds left. It followed a two-yard scoring toss to a leaping Mike Quick with 1:48 left.

The winning score was set up by a fumble as the Redskins were trying to run out the clock. Gerald Riggs lost the ball at the Eagles' 19, and it bounced to linebacker Al Harris, who handed it off to safety Wes Hopkins, who carried it 77 yards to the Washington 4.

Bill Mount

Dallas's Herschel Walker

In defeat, Redskins quarterback Mark Rypien threw four touchdown passes, including an 80-yard bomb to Gary Clark on the game's first play, and Riggs ran for a club-record 221 yards.

"This was my toughest loss," Washington head coach Joe Gibbs said. "I've never had a team make as many big plays and not win."

The week before, Gibbs and the Redskins lost to the Giants on a last-second field goal.

Also depressed was Saints head coach Jim Mora after his team's stunning loss to Green Bay.

"Our defense got riddled, especially in the second half," he said. "It was totally embarrassing."

Doing the riddling was Majkowski, who threw for 354 yards and three touchdowns—including the three-yard, game-winning strike to Sterling Sharpe with 1:26 left.

Vernon Biever

The Packers trailed the Saints 21-0, but Don Majkowski rallied Green Bay to an improbable 35-34 victory.

Majkowski drove Green Bay 80 yards on the winning drive, completing four passes to rookie wide receiver Jeff Query along the way. At one point in the second half he hit 18 passes in a row. Majkowski also got plenty of support from Brent Fullwood, who ran for 125 yards and two touchdowns.

In Tampa, there also was a dramatic ending, as Joe Montana led the 49ers to another of his last-minute victories, this one 20-16 over inspired Tampa Bay.

Led by cornerback Ricky Reynolds, who intercepted two passes

Hogeboom Finds a Home

Jim Turner

Hogeboom started fast.

Late in the 1988 season, when the Phoenix Cardinals were fighting for the playoffs, Pro Bowl quarterback Neil Lomax suffered a knee injury, missed two games, and limped through three others. The Cardinals lost all five and fell out of contention.

Imagine the depression in Phoenix, then, when—before the 1989 season even started—Lomax was declared out for the year with an arthritic hip.

But this time the team had Gary Hogeboom.

The 10-year veteran, who signed with Phoenix as a Plan B free agent in the off-season, replaced Lomax, and, after two weeks, he had led the Cardinals to road victories over Detroit and Seattle. He also had completed 66.1 percent of his passes and thrown for five touchdowns.

Four of those scores and 298 yards came in week 2 when Hogeboom bombed the Seahawks 34-24, throwing 51-, 6-, and 59-yard touchdown passes to Roy Green and a 25-yard strike to J.T. Smith.

"We'll always miss Neil Lomax, but Gary has responded like a true champion," fullback Ron Wolfley said. "He's playing awesome football."

"When Hogeboom is on, he's one of the best in the league," Seattle head coach Chuck Knox said. "We never could break his rhythm."

Lomax was impressed, too.

"This was one of the best performances I've ever seen from a quarterback," he said. "They were blitzing and doing everything they could, but Gary kept being aggressive. It's obvious he's on the same page as his receivers."

In nine seasons with Dallas and Indianapolis, Hogeboom started only 24 times, but he appeared to have found a home in Phoenix.

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	1	1	0
Miami	1	1	0
New England	1	1	0
Indianapolis	0	2	0
N.Y. Jets	0	2	0
AFC Central			
Cleveland	2	0	0
Cincinnati	1	1	0
Houston	1	1	0
Pittsburgh	0	2	0
AFC West			
Denver	2	0	0
Kansas City	1	1	0
L.A. Raiders	1	1	0
San Diego	0	2	0
Seattle	0	2	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	2	0	0
Philadelphia	2	0	0
Phoenix	2	0	0
Dallas	0	2	0
Washington	0	2	0
NFC Central			
Chicago	2	0	0
Green Bay	1	1	0
Minnesota	1	1	0
Tampa Bay	1	1	0
Detroit	0	2	0
NFC West			
L.A. Rams	2	0	0
San Francisco	2	0	0
Atlanta	1	1	0
New Orleans	1	1	0

Scores

AFC
Cincinnati 41, Pittsburgh 10
Cleveland 38, N.Y. Jets 24
Denver 28, Buffalo 14
Houston 34, San Diego 27
Kansas City 24, L.A. Raiders 19
Miami 24, New England 10
NFC
Atlanta 27, Dallas 21
Chicago 38, Minnesota 7
Green Bay 35, New Orleans 34
N.Y. Giants 24, Detroit 14
Philadelphia 42, Washington 37
San Francisco 20, Tampa Bay 16
Interconference
L.A. Rams 31, Indianapolis 17
Phoenix 34, Seattle 24

Quote

Saints safety **Dave Waymer**, grumbling after his team blew a 21-0 lead and lost to Green Bay 35-34:

"Next time we get in that position, we've got to smash the flea with a sledgehammer."

Marv Rubin

Paul Jasienski

Acrobatic Ernest Givins went high to catch a touchdown pass in the Oilers' 34-27 victory over the Chargers.

and forced a goal-line fumble to stop a drive, Tampa Bay swarmed all over the 49ers, sacking Montana four times and holding his team to 63 yards rushing.

But, trailing 16-13, Montana put together a 70-yard drive and scored the winning touchdown himself on a four-yard scramble around right end with 40 seconds left. A defensive holding penalty had given the 49ers a first down there after Montana's third-down incompletion from the 9.

The day's most impressive victory came in Chicago, where the Bears won an NFC Central showdown by scoring four touchdowns in the fourth quarter to hammer the Vikings 38-7.

Chicago led just 10-7 after three periods, but fourth-quarter interceptions off Wade Wilson by safety Shaun Gayle and linebacker Ron Rivera set up two touchdowns, and cornerback Lemuel Stinson scored another with his own 29-yard return. On offense, Neal Anderson ran for two scores and caught a 24-yard pass from Mike Tomczak for a third.

"They played like they had a chip on their shoulders today," said Vikings defensive tackle Keith Millard.

In Anaheim, Rams fans welcomed back ex-Los Angeles running back Eric Dickerson with boos, but Dickerson ran for 116 yards and a touchdown anyway. Not so proficient was the Colts' defense, which couldn't handle the Rams' passing combination of Jim Everett and Henry Ellard, so Los Angeles won 31-17.

While Ellard burned the Colts with a career-high 12 catches for 230 yards, Everett dazzled them with 28 completions in 35 attempts for 368 yards and three touchdowns—all to Ellard.

"They had Henry in single coverage," Everett said. "I don't think you can do that with him."

Monday long had been the worst day of the week for the Denver Broncos—they were 1-10 in Monday night road games—but in Buffalo, they jumped to a 21-0 lead and held off the Bills 28-14.

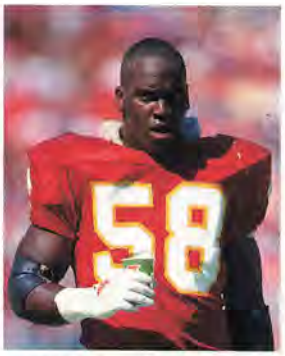
Denver got a scare when Buffalo closed to 21-14 in the fourth quarter, but John Elway led the Broncos on an 86-yard drive to the clinching touchdown, which he set up with a 31-yard scramble to the Bills' 5-yard line, eluding four tacklers along the way. Denver also got four field goals from David Treadwell and a safety from linebacker Michael Brooks.

The Browns won their second straight when they intercepted Ken O'Brien four times and outscored the Jets 38-24. Felix Wright had two of the interceptions, while his running mate at safety, Thane Gash, took another back 36 yards for a touchdown. In the first two weeks, the Browns forced 12 turnovers.

The offense was sharp this time, too, as Bernie Kosar passed for three touchdowns.

At Giants Stadium, the New York Giants trailed Detroit 14-3 in the third quarter, but Phil Simms hit 12 of 14 second-half passes to lead his team to 21 successive points and a 24-14 victory. For the game, Simms was 20 of 26 for two touchdowns. ◆

Players of the Week



Paul Jasienski

Chiefs' Derrick Thomas

Scott Cunningham

Eagles' Cunningham

AFC OFFENSE—Dan Marino, quarterback, Miami
Marino fired three touchdown passes—two to Jim Jensen—to lead the Dolphins past New England 24-10 and snap their seven-game losing streak against the Patriots. Marino finished the game with 200 career touchdown passes, a figure he reached after only 89 games—earlier than any other player in NFL history.

AFC DEFENSE—Derrick Thomas, linebacker, Kansas City
Thomas, the Chiefs' first-round draft choice from Alabama, had eight tackles, including 2½ sacks, and a forced fumble in Kansas City's 24-19 victory over the Raiders.

NFC OFFENSE—Randall Cunningham, quarterback, Philadelphia
Cunningham passed for five touchdowns and a club-record 447 yards—hitting 34 of 46 attempts—as he rallied the Eagles to a wild 42-37 victory over the Redskins. Three of his scoring passes went to tight end Keith Jackson.

NFC DEFENSE—Lawrence Taylor, linebacker, New York Giants
Taylor had 2½ sacks, a total of 12 tackles, broke up a pass, and forced a fumble that set up the clinching touchdown as the Giants stopped the Lions 24-14.

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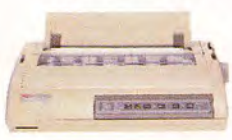

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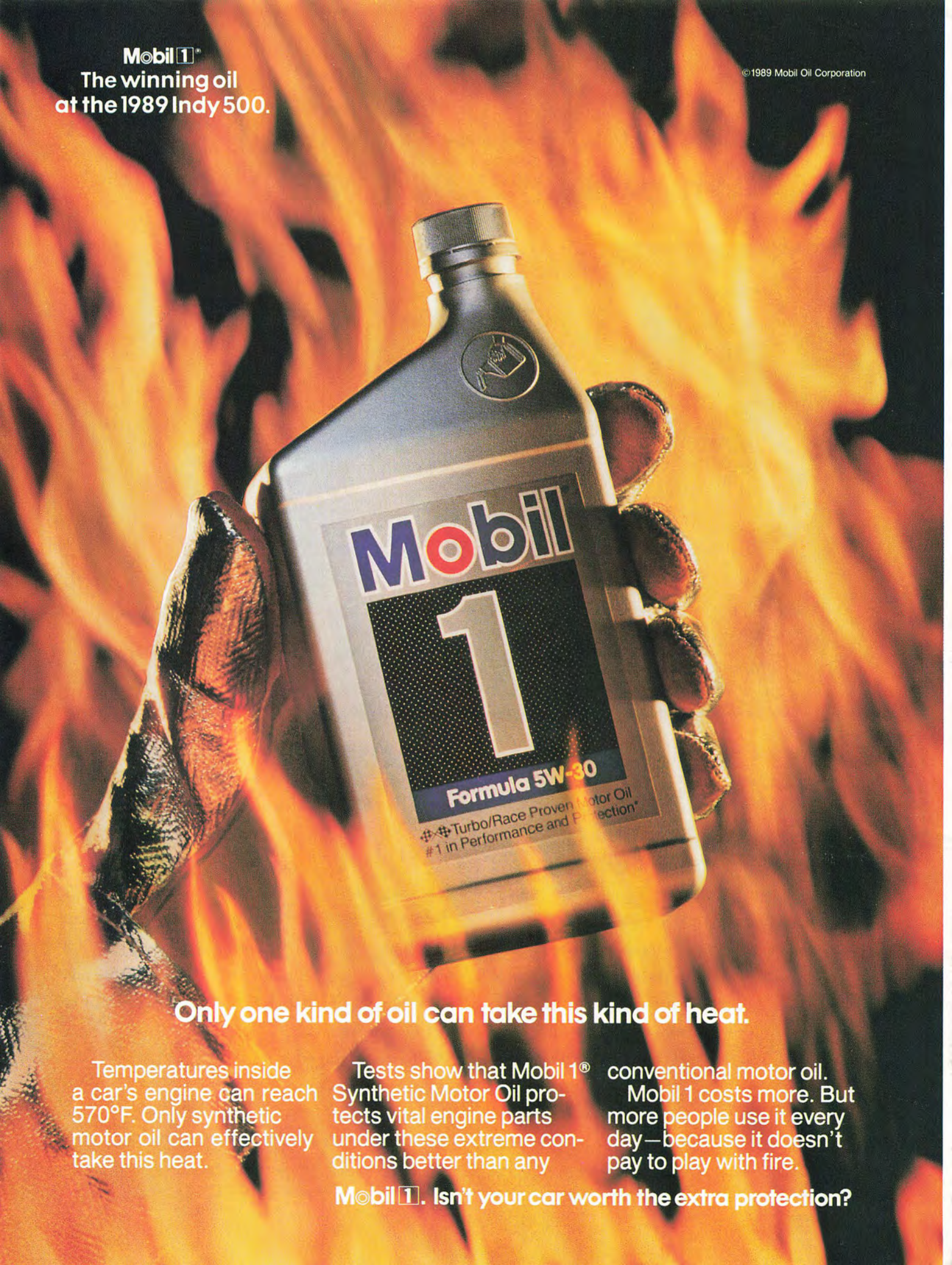

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1989 Replay

September 24

WHEN HE SUCCEEDED BILL Walsh as the 49ers' head coach, George Seifert wasn't given an easy road. What he was given was a lot of road—his first three games on the road, in fact.

But he passed his first big test as he and the 49ers won all three of those games to come home as one of five unbeaten teams in the NFL.

In going for three straight, the 49ers were in deep trouble in Philadelphia, where the unbeaten Eagles took a 21-10 lead early in the fourth quarter. But that old comeback artist Joe Montana threw touchdown passes on *four* successive series, hitting John Taylor (70 yards), Tom Rathman (8), Brent Jones (25), and Jerry Rice (33), and the 49ers shocked the Eagles 38-28.

In the fourth quarter alone, Joe Cool completed 11 of 12 passes for

Ed Webber

Curt Warner ran, John L. Williams blocked, and Seattle breezed 24-3 over New England.

and passed for 428 yards. Montana had to overcome eight sacks by the Eagles, 2½ by Reggie White, to do it.

Bob Rosato

Mark Carrier averaged 24 yards a catch on five receptions as Tampa Bay surprised New Orleans.

227 yards and four touchdowns.

"Normally, when you score twenty-eight points, you should win," Eagles head coach Buddy Ryan said. "But not when you're up against a guy like Montana."

For the day, Montana threw five scoring passes—he also hit Rice for 68 yards in the first quarter—

Quote

Vikings head coach **Jerry Burns**, trying to explain his team's shocking loss to Pittsburgh:

"You can forewarn them, but it's up to the players.

"It's like when you can see all the warning signs on the road, but still run your car into a tree."

Mary Rubin

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	2	1	0
Indianapolis	1	2	0
Miami	1	2	0
New England	1	2	0
N.Y. Jets	1	2	0
AFC Central			
Cincinnati	2	1	0
Cleveland	2	1	0
Houston	1	2	0
Pittsburgh	1	2	0
AFC West			
Denver	3	0	0
Kansas City	1	2	0
L.A. Raiders	1	2	0
San Diego	1	2	0
Seattle	1	2	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	3	0	0
Philadelphia	2	1	0
Phoenix	2	1	0
Washington	1	2	0
Dallas	0	3	0
NFC Central			
Chicago	3	0	0
Tampa Bay	2	1	0
Green Bay	1	2	0
Minnesota	1	2	0
Detroit	0	3	0
NFC West			
L.A. Rams	3	0	0
San Francisco	3	0	0
Atlanta	1	2	0
New Orleans	1	2	0

Scores

AFC
Buffalo 47, Houston 41 (OT)
Cincinnati 21, Cleveland 14
Denver 31, L.A. Raiders 21
N.Y. Jets 40, Miami 33
San Diego 21, Kansas City 6
Seattle 24, New England 3

NFC
Chicago 47, Detroit 27
L.A. Rams 41, Green Bay 38
N.Y. Giants 35, Phoenix 7
San Francisco 38, Philadelphia 28
Tampa Bay 20, New Orleans 10
Washington 30, Dallas 7

Interconference
Indianapolis 13, Atlanta 9
Pittsburgh 27, Minnesota 14

"You might hit him," Rice said, "but he's gonna come back and make a big play."

For the second week in a row, there were a lot of big plays in the NFL, as seven quarterbacks passed for more than 300 yards, and high scores around the league were the norm.

The Rams, Bears, and Giants in the NFC, and the Broncos in the AFC all remained unbeaten and all scored more than 30 points. But it wasn't always easy.

The Rams, for example, scored 28 points in the second quarter and took a 38-7 halftime lead over the Packers in Anaheim. But Green Bay, which had rallied from a 21-0 deficit to defeat New Orleans the week before, almost pulled off what would have been the most remarkable comeback of all time.

Don Majkowski threw for 335 yards and two touchdowns and Sterling Sharpe caught eight passes for 164 yards as the Packers outscored the Rams 31-3 in the second half before losing 41-38. Trailing 38-31 early in the fourth quarter, Green Bay narrowly missed a tie when Brent Fullwood fumbled the ball away at the Los Angeles goal line.

Helping the Rams survive was Greg Bell, who shrugged off a midweek case of food poisoning to run for 221 yards and two touchdowns, including one of 45 yards. And, with 1:51 left and the Rams facing third-and-one at their own 48, Bell ran 46 yards to the Packers' 6, allowing Los Angeles to kill the clock.

"He's the most underrated runner in the league," Rams quarterback Jim Everett said.

"I was tired," Bell said of his 28-carry day, "but if I had to go out there and run ten more times, I could do it."

There was another second-half comeback in Denver, where the revitalized Broncos scored three touchdowns after recovering fumbles to take a 28-0 halftime lead on the Raiders. John Elway threw two touchdown passes to wide re-

Al Kooistra

Greg Bell rushed for 221 yards and two touchdowns as the Rams stayed unbeaten by holding off the Packers.

Blast From the Past in Pittsburgh

George Gojkovich

Noll hung tough.

You didn't need to be a weather forecaster to know these were dark days in Pittsburgh.

After three losing seasons in the last four years, the Steelers lost their first two games in 1989 by a combined score of 92-10. It was quite a comedown for head coach Chuck Noll, who had guided the team to four Super Bowl victories in the 1970s.

Noll and the Steelers didn't get a break in week 3, either. Next up were the Minnesota Vikings, one of the NFL's strongest teams.

Shockingly, however, the Steelers overturned the Vikings 27-14.

"I'd have to say Minnesota ran into a buzz saw," Noll said.

They also ran into quarterback Bubby Brister, who completed 16 of 22 passes and led the Steelers' 60-yard, second-quarter touchdown drive that put them ahead for good 21-14. And Pittsburgh's defense chipped in with five sacks, including two each by end Tim Johnson and linebacker Jerrol Williams.

"What we had to do was hang in there, and the players did that," Noll said. "There was no question in my mind about having a group of guys that wanted to get it done. We've had good practice sessions. The thing we had to do was eliminate the errors and we did that pretty much.

"When you see your team perform like that, it makes you smile a little bit."

As he smiled, Noll, ever the optimist, looked ahead.

"Right now, we're going to play them one at a time and see if we can get a string together," he said.

ceiver Mark Jackson and scrambled 29 yards for another score.

In the second half, however, Raiders cornerback Lionel Washington took an interception back 32 yards for a touchdown, linebacker Linden King returned a fumble 15 yards for another score, and the Raiders slashed the score to 28-21. In the fourth quarter, however, when Los Angeles was trying to drive for a tying touchdown, Broncos rookie safety Steve Atwater got his second interception to set up the clinching field goal, and Denver hung on 31-21.

At Giants Stadium, in one of the few one-sided games of the weekend, the Giants intercepted four of Gary Hogeboom's first eight passes and routed Phoenix 35-7.

Safety Terry Kinard started the barrage by taking back the first steal 58 yards for a touchdown, and safety Adrian White got two more interceptions. The Giants also sacked Hogeboom five times, once by linebacker Gary Reasons for a safety. Offensively, Ottis Anderson ran for 98 yards against his former teammates, including a 36-yard burst for a touchdown.

In addition to the game, the Cardinals lost running back Stump Mitchell for the season with a knee injury that required surgery.

The Bears stayed unbeaten, too, as they blasted Detroit 47-27 behind Mike Tomczak's 302 yards passing. Tomczak had four completions of 40 yards or longer, including a 40-yard scoring strike to Dennis McKinnon. Neal Anderson helped out by rushing for 116 yards and scoring on a 53-yard run.

Lions rookie Barry Sanders rushed for 126 yards and a touchdown, before leaving in the third quarter with a hip pointer.

A few days after learning that 1,000-yard rusher Ickey Woods was lost for the season due to knee surgery, the Bengals moved into a tie with the Browns for first place in the AFC Central by stopping Cleveland 21-14. Including the 1988 playoffs, it was Cincinnati's twelfth win in a row at Riverfront Stadium.

Boomer Esiason threw three touchdown passes, two to tight end Rodney Holman, while the Bengals' defense twice stopped the Browns inside the Cincinnati 10 in the fourth quarter. The last stand came with 1:41 left, when Bernie Kosar's fourth-down pass from the 3 was broken up by cornerback Eric Thomas.

In 1988, the Jets outscored the Dolphins 44-30 and 38-34. In their first game in 1989, they played racehorse football again, the Jets rallying for a 40-33 victory. New York's Ken O'Brien passed for 329 yards and three touchdowns, including the 11-yard pass to running back Roger Vick that won it with 1:29 left.

The Jets' Al Toon had 10 catches for 159 yards and another score, while cornerback James Hasty set up the winning touchdown and a field goal with two interceptions.

In Tampa, the much-improved Buccaneers surprised New Orleans 20-10. Safety Mark Robinson set up Lars Tate's five-yard winning touchdown run with an interception off John Fourcade. Fourcade was subbing for regular quarterback Bobby Hebert, who sat out nearly two quarters of the game with a concussion. ◆

Players of the Week

Paul Jasienski

Chargers' Gill Byrd

Paul Spinelli/NFLP

49ers' Joe Montana

AFC OFFENSE—Jim Kelly, quarterback, Buffalo
Kelly passed for 363 yards and five touchdowns, including the 28-yard game-winner to Andre Reed that defeated Houston in overtime 47-41. He also threw 78- and 63-yard bombs to Reed and rookie Don Beebe and two touchdown passes to running back Thurman Thomas.

AFC DEFENSE—Gill Byrd, cornerback, San Diego
Byrd stopped two Kansas City drives with interceptions at the San Diego 16- and 38-yard lines and made six tackles as the Chargers beat the Chiefs 21-6 to win their first game. In all, San Diego intercepted five passes by the Chiefs' Steve DeBerg.

NFC OFFENSE—Joe Montana, quarterback, San Francisco
Montana threw five touchdown passes—four in the fourth quarter—and passed for 428 yards as the unbeaten 49ers rallied to defeat the Eagles 38-28.

NFC DEFENSE—Vince Newsome, safety, Los Angeles Rams
Newsome ran an interception back 81 yards for a touchdown—the Rams' longest return in nine years—and made nine tackles (eight unassisted) as Los Angeles held off Green Bay 41-38.

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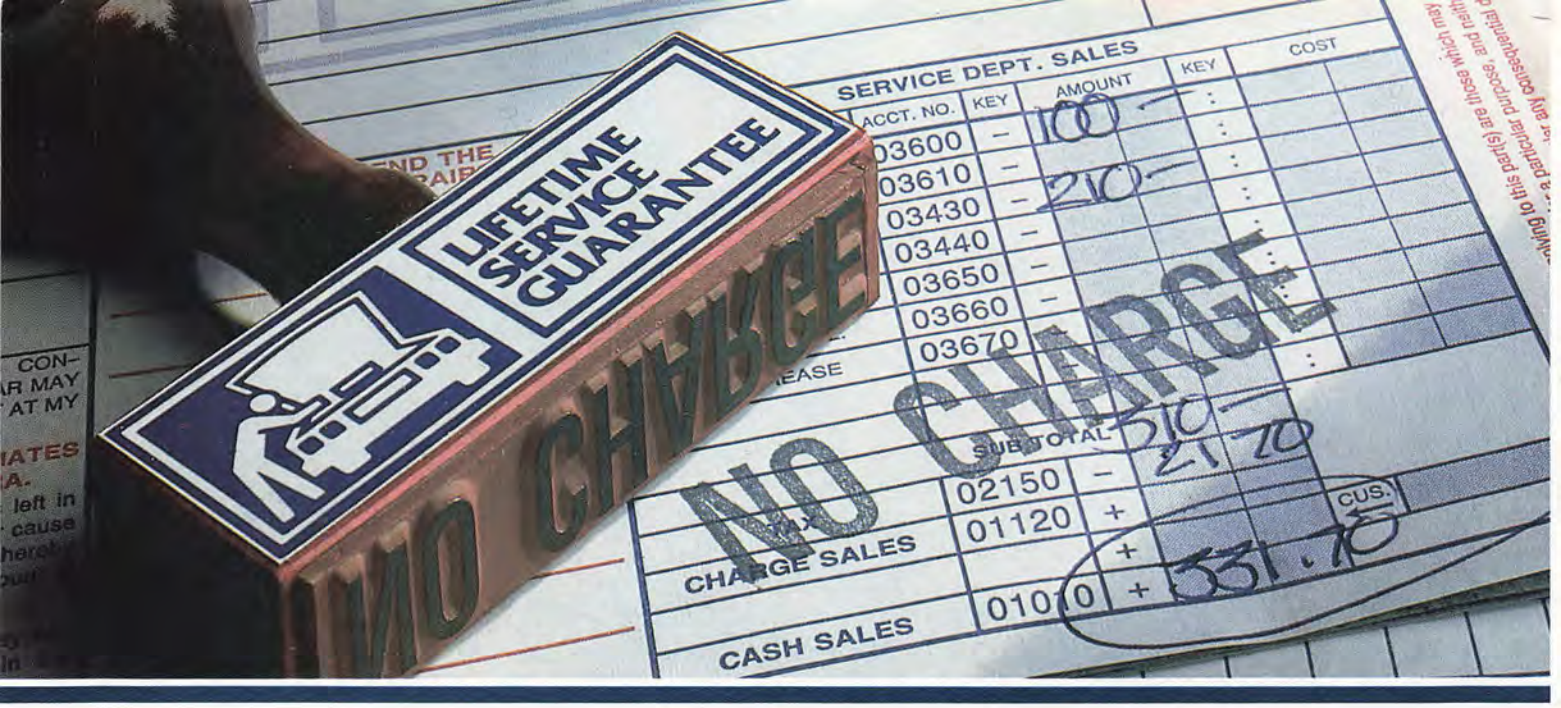

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1989 Replay

October 1

MIKE LANSFORD HAD WON another game for the Rams by kicking a 26-yard field goal with two seconds left.

"People always ask me if it gets any easier," he said. "It doesn't. I'll be bald at forty and have ulcers, but I'll enjoy it."

While Lansford joked about his hair falling out, the 49ers fell, too—out of a first-place tie—as the Rams edged them 13-12 on the sixth game-winning kick of Lansford's career. Five have come in the last five seconds. It was San Francisco's first loss, and it left the Rams as one of three unbeaten teams in the NFL after four weeks.

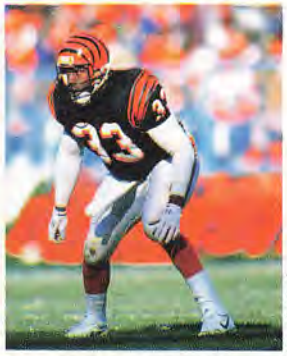
Also perfect were the Bears and Giants. Denver, the last unbeaten team in the AFC, suffered its first loss. Cleveland's Matt Bahr was as good as Lansford in the clutch, nailing a 48-yard field goal to stop the Broncos 16-13 as time expired.

In San Francisco, the 49ers controlled the ball for nearly 39 minutes and took a 12-10 lead over the Rams with four field goals from Mike Cofer. They were bidding for the clinching touchdown when fullback Tom Rathman fumbled to linebacker Kevin Greene at the Rams' 19 with 2:59 left.

Players of the Week

Al Tielemans

Bears' Mike Tomczak



Pete J. Groh

Bengals' David Fulcher

AFC OFFENSE—Bubby Brister, quarterback, Pittsburgh
Brister shrugged off six sacks and completed 21 of 27 passes for 267 yards in Pittsburgh's 23-3 victory over Detroit. Included was a 48-yard touchdown strike to Louis Lipps.

AFC DEFENSE—David Fulcher, safety, Cincinnati
Fulcher intercepted three passes, made three tackles, and recovered a fumble at the Bengals' 1-yard line in Cincinnati's 21-17 win at Kansas City. He was aided by linebacker Leon White, who stripped the ball from running back Christian Okoye and ran 22 yards for the winning touchdown with 13:11 left.

NFC OFFENSE—Mike Tomczak, quarterback, Chicago
Tomczak passed for 266 yards and three touchdowns as the Bears dominated the Eagles 27-13 to stay unbeaten. His scoring passes went to Dennis McKinnon, Matt Suhey, and James Thornton.

NFC DEFENSE—Tim Harris, linebacker, Green Bay
Harris had four sacks of Hugh Millen and made two other tackles, helping Green Bay to a come-from-behind 23-21 win over Atlanta. He was the first Packer since 1985 to record four sacks in a game.

Quote

Marv Rubin

Cleveland kicker **Matt Bahr**, explaining slow-footed quarterback **Bernie Kosar's** 23-yard scramble against Denver: "He had the wind."

The Rams drove 72 yards to the San Francisco 9, as Jim Everett threw clutch passes of 31 and 16 yards to tight end Pete Holohan to position Lansford for the game-winning kick.

"This was big-time," Everett said. "A lot of people wrote last year that we couldn't win the big game in the end."

A lot of people also were writing that Cleveland couldn't beat Denver. Since their last win in 1974, the Browns had lost 10 successive games to the Broncos.

They were on their way to number 11 when linebacker Mike Johnson stripped the ball from Denver's Sammy Winder at the Cleveland 16 with the score tied 13-13 and 1:49 left. Cornerback Frank Minnifield fell on it.

Bernie Kosar took advantage of the fumble, driving the Browns 54 yards and hitting five of six passes along the way to set up Bahr for his game-winning 48-yard kick.

The difference in Dallas was Phil Simms's passing, as the Giants soared to 4-0 with a 30-13 rout of the Cowboys. Simms completed 14 of 19 attempts and threw touchdown passes to Dave Meggett and Mark Bavaro. The Giants' quarterback also scrambled for gains of 14 and 15 yards on two of his scoring drives.

Giants head coach Bill Parcells tried to remain calm, despite his team's fast start. "We've had a nice first quarter of the season," he said, "but this is a marathon; this isn't a sprint."

The Cowboys fell to 0-4, their poorest start in 26 years. They also lost rookie quarterback Troy Aikman for at least a month with a fractured finger on his left hand.

The fracturing in Chicago was done by the Bears' defense, which intercepted the Eagles' Randall Cunningham four times, sacked him four times (three times by end Richard Dent), and forced six turnovers as the Bears won 27-13.

"I've got nothing but praise for our defense," Bears head coach Mike Ditka said.

Indianapolis beat the Jets on Clarence Verdin's 49-yard, fourth-quarter punt return for a touchdown.

Jim Turner

Week Four

The Bears never have lost to the Eagles in Chicago—they're 13-0—and Ditka never has lost to Philadelphia's Buddy Ryan, his former defensive coordinator—he's 4-0.

The once-beaten Bills were impressive, too, as they riddled New England 31-10 at Buffalo's Rich Stadium. Jim Kelly passed for 278 yards and three touchdowns—giving him eight touchdown passes in two weeks.

Kelly got plenty of help from Thurman Thomas, who gained 204 yards from scrimmage. The second-year back ran for 105 yards and a touchdown and caught four passes for 99 more, running 74 yards to score with a swing pass.

Eric Lars Baake

Cleveland's Matt Bahr ignored the pressure to beat Denver with a 48-yard field goal as time ran out.

In New Orleans, the Redskins rallied from a 14-3 halftime deficit to upend the Saints 16-14. New Orleans was stymied when usually reliable kicker Morten Andersen missed a 36-yarder that could have won the game with 2:34 left.

It was the third loss in a row for the Saints, who had lost three of their last four games in 1988, prompting cornerback Dave Waymer to muse: "We're a 1-3 team, like cornered rats. Do you turn around and let the cat eat you, or do you fight your butts off?"

The Oilers threw a suffocating defense at Dan Marino in Houston and routed Miami 39-7. Marino was held to a career-low 103 yards passing as a starter (11 completions in 29 attempts). Miami's only touchdown came on Marc Logan's 97-yard kickoff return.

Houston's Warren Moon was hot, hitting 19 of 23 passes for two touchdowns as the Oilers controlled the ball for 43:28.

In Giants Stadium, the Jets led the Colts 10-0 at halftime, largely because of safety Erik McMillan's 92-yard interception return for a touchdown. But Indianapolis won the game 17-10. Jack Trudeau, who was filling in for Chris Chandler (lost for the season after knee surgery), got the Colts' comeback started with a 55-yard third-quarter touchdown pass to Bill Brooks.

Then, with the score tied 10-10 in the fourth, the Colts' Clarence Verdin returned a punt 49 yards for the touchdown that won the game with 9:18 left. ◆

George Rose

The Rams' Flipper Anderson scored on a 65-yard pass.

Bruce Dierdorff

Brent Fullwood ran for 84 yards as the improving Packers rallied from a 21-6 deficit to beat the Falcons.

Silver-and-Black Shell Game

Paul Spinelli/NFLP

Shell took over the Raiders.

If the summer was momentous for Art Shell, the fall was positively historic.

In August, the former Raiders tackle was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

In the fifth week of the season he became the first black head coach in modern NFL history.

Shell, 42, who had coached the Raiders' offensive line since 1983, succeeded Mike Shanahan as head coach when Shanahan was dismissed by owner Al Davis. Two days before, the Raiders had lost to Seattle 24-20, their third defeat in the season's first four weeks.

The last—and only previous—black head coach in the NFL was Fritz Pollard, who was player-coach or co-coach of the Akron Pros, the Milwaukee Badgers, and the Hammond Pros during various stints from 1920-26.

"It is a historic event and I understand the significance of it," Shell said. "But I'm also a Raider and I don't believe the color of my skin entered into this decision. If you know Al Davis and you know this organization, you'll understand that."

Davis said, "If this is a historic occasion—and I realize who he is and what's happening here; I'm not lost on that—it's only meaningful and historic if he's a great success."

Shell, who was voted to eight Pro Bowls and started in two Super Bowls, talked about restoring the Raiders' greatness.

"We're about winning," he said. "We're going to put the players in a position to win. We've had great players here, great coaches. I plan on following in that tradition of being a great coach."

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	3	1	0
Indianapolis	2	2	0
Miami	1	3	0
New England	1	3	0
N.Y. Jets	1	3	0
AFC Central			
Cincinnati	3	1	0
Cleveland	3	1	0
Houston	2	2	0
Pittsburgh	2	2	0
AFC West			
Denver	3	1	0
San Diego	2	2	0
Seattle	2	2	0
Kansas City	1	3	0
L.A. Raiders	1	3	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	4	0	0
Philadelphia	2	2	0
Phoenix	2	2	0
Washington	2	2	0
Dallas	0	4	0
NFC Central			
Chicago	4	0	0
Green Bay	2	2	0
Minnesota	2	2	0
Tampa Bay	2	2	0
Detroit	0	4	0
NFC West			
L.A. Rams	4	0	0
San Francisco	3	1	0
Atlanta	1	3	0
New Orleans	1	3	0

Scores

AFC
Buffalo 31, New England 10
Cincinnati 21, Kansas City 17
Cleveland 16, Denver 13
Houston 39, Miami 7
Indianapolis 17, N.Y. Jets 10
Seattle 24, L.A. Raiders 20
NFC
Chicago 27, Philadelphia 13
Green Bay 23, Atlanta 21
L.A. Rams 13, San Francisco 12
Minnesota 17, Tampa Bay 3
N.Y. Giants 30, Dallas 13
Washington 16, New Orleans 14
Interconference
Pittsburgh 23, Detroit 3
San Diego 24, Phoenix 13

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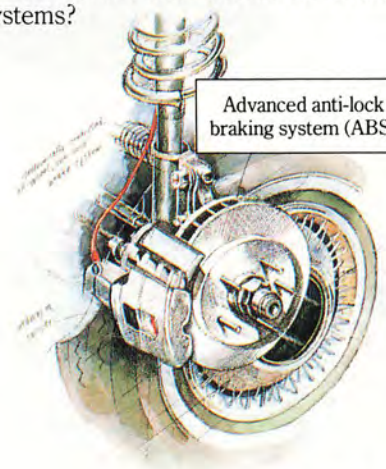

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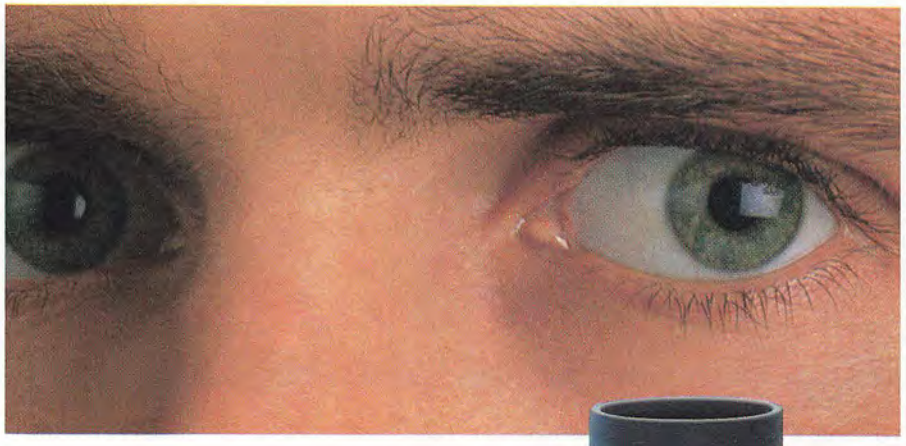

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1989 Replay

October 8

Five weeks into one of the NFL's toughest schedules, rebuilding Tampa Bay had a somewhat surprising 3-2 record. The last win was the best one—a wild 42-35 victory over the previously unbeaten Chicago Bears.

"I don't think I have to say that it's a great win for our franchise," head coach Ray Perkins said. "This should go a long way towards getting us over the hump.

"You've got to give our players credit. They're playing consistently at a higher level."

Also playing at a higher level were the Los Angeles Rams, who emerged as the NFL's only unbeaten team with a 26-14 victory over Atlanta, while the previously unbeaten New York Giants fell to Philadelphia 21-19.

The big news was in Tampa, however, where Vinny Testaverde hit 11 of his first 12 passes and went on to throw for 269 yards and three touchdowns against the Bears' defense which had yielded only 15 points a game.

The Buccaneers, who had lost to the Bears 12 times in a row, jumped to a 21-0 lead early in the second quarter. Then, after Chicago cut the lead to 28-21 going into the fourth quarter, Testaverde led Tampa Bay on two more scoring drives to put the game away with a 21-point lead. Lars Tate, who rushed for 112 yards, scored the final two touchdowns.

The offense was helped by a pair of first-half turnovers that led to touchdowns—safety Mark Robinson's interception and return to the Bears' 14, and end Reuben Davis's fumble recovery on the Chicago 28.

In defeat, Chicago's Neal Anderson took over the NFL rushing lead (530 yards) with 86 yards and three touchdowns.

The Giants led the Eagles 19-14 late in the fourth quarter in Philadelphia, but Randall Cunningham took the Eagles on a game-winning 81-yard drive that ended with Anthony Toney's two-yard touchdown run with 2:18 left. Philadelphia won 21-19.

Bob Rosato

New Raiders head coach Art Shell, who made a winning debut against the Jets, celebrated with end Howie Long.

Cunningham passed for 59 yards on the march and also scrambled seven yards for a first down at the Giants' 2 to set up Toney's touchdown.

"We needed the win bad and we got it," said Eagles head coach Buddy Ryan, whose team had lost two in a row.

Making It Work in Green Bay

When he was at Cincinnati and Cleveland as offensive coordinator, Lindy Infante developed a reputation as an offensive whiz. Nothing has changed.

In 1988, Infante got his first NFL head-coaching job with Green Bay, a team that hadn't had a winning season since 1982. After five weeks of his second year, the Packers led the NFL in total offense and passing, and were second in scoring. At 3-2, they also had a winning record.

"The biggest difference is the mental aspect," quarterback Don Majkowski said. "Everyone knows much more about what we're doing."

Majkowski certainly does. In week 5, he bombed Dallas for 313 yards and four touchdowns in Green Bay's 31-13 victory, giving him three 300-yard passing games in four weeks. He also was tied for the NFL lead in touchdown passes with 11.

"Our offense is well diversified," he said. "I have the option to go to anyone on any play. It opens up a lot of things."

It did against the Cowboys.

Ex-Browns running back Herman Fontenot caught two touchdown passes. Wide receiver Sterling Sharpe had six catches for 132 yards, including a 79-yarder for a score. Wide receiver Perry Kemp had six catches for 56 yards and another touchdown. Brent Fullwood ran for 119 yards.

Bob Rosato

Packers' offensive whiz

"I said all along I knew we were going to be a better football team," Infante said. "I think it's obvious we are. But the jury's still out. There's still a lot of games to be played. How good we are and how far we can go remains to be seen."

The confident Majkowski felt the Packers could go a long way. Asked if they could win the NFC Central Division championship, he said: "Absolutely."

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	3	2	0
Indianapolis	3	2	0
Miami	2	3	0
New England	2	3	0
N.Y. Jets	1	4	0
AFC Central			
Cincinnati	4	1	0
Cleveland	3	2	0
Houston	2	3	0
Pittsburgh	2	3	0
AFC West			
Denver	4	1	0
Kansas City	2	3	0
L.A. Raiders	2	3	0
San Diego	2	3	0
Seattle	2	3	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	4	1	0
Philadelphia	3	2	0
Washington	3	2	0
Phoenix	2	3	0
Dallas	0	5	0
NFC Central			
Chicago	4	1	0
Green Bay	3	2	0
Minnesota	3	2	0
Tampa Bay	3	2	0
Detroit	0	5	0
NFC West			
L.A. Rams	5	0	0
San Francisco	4	1	0
Atlanta	1	4	0
New Orleans	1	4	0

Scores

AFC
Cincinnati 26, Pittsburgh 16
Denver 16, San Diego 10
Indianapolis 37, Buffalo 14
Kansas City 20, Seattle 16
L.A. Raiders 14, N.Y. Jets 7
Miami 13, Cleveland 10 (OT)
New England 23, Houston 13

NFC
Green Bay 31, Dallas 13
L.A. Rams 26, Atlanta 14
Minnesota 24, Detroit 17
Philadelphia 21, N.Y. Giants 19
San Francisco 24, New Orleans 20
Tampa Bay 42, Chicago 35
Washington 30, Phoenix 28

In Anaheim, the Rams shrugged off a career-best 340-yard passing day by Atlanta's Chris Miller to defeat the Falcons for the fifth successive time. Jim Everett passed for 290 yards and two touchdowns, and Henry Ellard caught eight passes for 165 yards. When the Rams stalled, Mike Lansford kicked a field goal. He did it four times.

The week's most impressive winners were the Colts, who forced seven turnovers and got

four sacks in a 37-14 pounding of the Bills. However, Buffalo's most significant loss may have been quarterback Jim Kelly, who suffered a separated left shoulder.

Safety Keith Taylor returned an interception of a pass by Frank Reich, Kelly's replacement, 80 yards for a touchdown. Earlier, Taylor had set up a field goal with an interception off Kelly as the Colts scored 23 of their points following turnovers. Offensively, Eric Dickerson ran for 92 yards and two touchdowns, Bill Brooks caught five passes for 111 yards, and Jack Trudeau passed for 193 yards and ran for a touchdown.

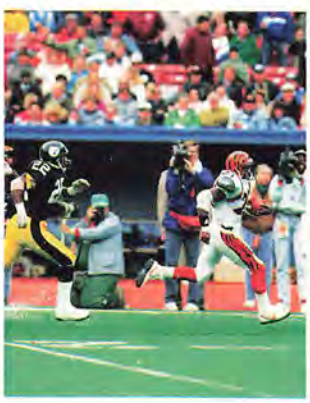
Kelly, who was tied for the NFL lead in touchdown passes (11), would be out for about a month.

In Giants Stadium, the Raiders' Art Shell made his head coaching debut against the Jets and came out a 14-7 winner.

"I just love these guys to death," Shell said of his team after the game. "Everyone was happy and everyone got a game ball."

The happy Raiders did it on big scoring plays—a 73-yard pass from Jay Schroeder to Mervyn Fernandez (63 yards of it a dazzling run by Fernandez) and safety Eddie Anderson's 87-yard interception return that broke a 7-7 tie with 10:05 left to play.

In Pittsburgh, the Bengals, clinging to a 19-16 fourth-quarter lead over the Steelers, faced a third-and-27 situation with about two minutes to go. To kill some time, they sent running back James Brooks up the middle—and he went all the way, 65 yards for the clinching touchdown with 1:49 left as Cincinnati won 26-16.



Paul Spinelli/NFLP

On third-and-27, Cincinnati's James Brooks ran 65 yards for a score to put away Pittsburgh.

"It was third-and-forever, and we were going to pop the play up the middle and keep the clock going," Bengals head coach Sam Wyche said. "After that, it's up to the running back—and we've got a great running back."

Brooks ran 13 yards for another touchdown and gained 127 yards in 17 carries.

On the last offensive play, the Steelers also lost quarterback Bubby Brister for two to four weeks with a sprained knee.

In Denver, the Broncos were in a dogfight late in the fourth quarter, trailing upset-minded San Diego 10-9.

But John Elway took the Broncos on a 74-yard drive that ended when rookie Bobby Humphrey, in his first start, sprinted 17 yards up the middle for the touchdown that won the game 16-10 with 1:03 left. He dragged defenders Gary Plummer and Leslie O'Neal into the end zone. For the game, Humphrey rushed for 102 yards.

In Foxboro, the Patriots snapped their three-game losing streak by surprising Houston 23-13. Running back John Stephens, who had been sidelined with a sprained ankle for two games, returned and contributed an 11-yard touchdown. Marvin Allen, a second-year Patriots running back, set up his own one-yard touchdown run by recovering a fumbled kickoff on the Oilers' 28.

In Washington, Mark Rypien threw fourth-quarter touchdown passes to Art Monk and Gary Clark to rally the Redskins to their third successive victory, a 30-28 decision over the Cardinals. Washington's Earnest Byner rushed for 100 yards and caught five passes for 71 more.

The injury-plagued Cardinals lost Roy Green with a broken collarbone. J.T. Smith, his sidekick at wide receiver, caught three touchdown passes from quarterback Gary Hogeboom. ◆

Players of the Week

Hank Young

Chiefs' Christian Okoye

Paul Jasienski

Vikings' Keith Millard

AFC OFFENSE—Christian Okoye, running back, Kansas City
Okoye ran for 156 yards—105 of them in the second half—as the Chiefs rallied from a 16-3 halftime deficit to surprise Seattle 20-16. He broke four tackles on a 13-yard, third-quarter touchdown run.

AFC DEFENSE—Louis Oliver, safety, Miami
Oliver saved the Dolphins from defeat in regulation when he intercepted a pass by Bernie Kosar at the Miami 26 with 22 seconds left against Cleveland. He also had four tackles and watched as Pete Stoyanovich's 35-yard field goal in overtime won the game 13-10.

NFC OFFENSE—The Tampa Bay Offense
Facing a Chicago defense that had yielded just 61 points in four weeks, Tampa Bay gained 415 yards, rolled up 26 first downs, and scored six touchdowns in a 42-35 victory that was the Bears' first loss of 1989.

NFC DEFENSE—Keith Millard, tackle, Minnesota
Millard had three sacks, a total of seven tackles, and a 48-yard interception return as the Vikings turned back Detroit 24-17.

Al Tielemans

Randall Cunningham will even stand on his head to score a touchdown. His Eagles beat the Giants.

Quote

Marv Rubin

San Francisco quarterback **Joe Montana**, after leading his team to its third come-from-behind win in the last four weeks:

"This is bad for the heart."

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1989 Replay

October 15

HERSCHEL WALKER HAD been with the Vikings for just three days, so the plan was to ease him into the starting lineup.

As his new team struggled against old nemesis Green Bay, trailing 7-0 in the first quarter, Walker came on the field to return a kickoff—and took it 51 yards.

A penalty wiped out about half of the return, but Walker got the ball back moments later—and, on his first play from scrimmage with Minnesota, ran 47 yards over right guard. He broke four tackles on the run and went the last 15 yards without his right shoe, which he lost eluding a defender. *Two plays and 98 yards.*

"I'm not the smartest guy, but I'm not a complete idiot, either," said Vikings head coach Jerry Burns. "When I saw what he was doing out there, I said, 'Hey, keep feeding him the ball.'"

The Vikings did just that, and, buoyed by Walker's 148 rushing yards and a fierce defensive rush, turned back the explosive Packers 26-14. It was a big win. Minnesota had lost four in a row to Green Bay and 14 of the last 18.

While Walker led the offense, tackle Keith Millard paced a defense that sacked Packers quarterback Don Majkowski, the NFL leader in passing yards, eight times. Millard had four sacks, and end Chris Doleman two. Linebacker Ray Berry had one for a safety. Cornerback Reggie Rutland set up a touchdown and a field goal with two interceptions.

The Vikings weren't alone in playing outstanding defense on a weekend when there were surprising scores all over the NFL. Pittsburgh, which lost to Cleveland 51-0 on opening day, took revenge and stifled the Browns 17-7. Miami snapped Cincinnati's 12-game home winning streak, 20-13. Detroit won its first game, edging Tampa Bay 17-16. And Houston rallied to defeat the Bears 33-28. All of those winners scored their upsets on the road.

The Steelers had lost seven games in a row to the Browns, but this time Pittsburgh intercepted Bernie Kosar four times, forced

William Pugliano

On his first play from scrimmage as a Viking, Herschel Walker ran 47 yards, despite losing his right shoe.

Players of the Week

Bob Rosato

Lions' Rodney Peete

Bill Smith

Oilers' Warren Moon

AFC OFFENSE—Warren Moon, quarterback, Houston
Moon passed for 317 yards and two touchdowns and ran a yard for another score to rally the Oilers to a 33-28 victory over the Bears. His scoring strikes went 42 yards to Drew Hill and 45 to Haywood Jeffires.

AFC DEFENSE—Carnell Lake, safety, Pittsburgh
Lake broke up two drives with an interception and a fumble recovery, made five solo tackles, and deflected a pass as the Steelers stunned the Browns 17-7.

NFC OFFENSE—Rodney Peete, quarterback, Detroit
Peete scrambled five yards for the winning touchdown on a fourth-and-goal play with 23 seconds left to give the winless Lions a 17-16 victory over Tampa Bay. Overall, the rookie quarterback passed for 268 yards and a touchdown and ran for 78 yards.

NFC DEFENSE—Jerome Brown, tackle, Philadelphia
Brown had 10 solo tackles, including 2½ sacks, forced two fumbles, and recovered another to lead the Eagles to a 17-5 victory over Phoenix. The Philadelphia defense sacked quarterback Tom Tupa six times and intercepted six passes.

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	4	2	0
Indianapolis	3	3	0
Miami	3	3	0
New England	2	4	0
N.Y. Jets	1	5	0
AFC Central			
Cincinnati	4	2	0
Cleveland	3	3	0
Houston	3	3	0
Pittsburgh	3	3	0
AFC West			
Denver	5	1	0
L.A. Raiders	3	3	0
Seattle	3	3	0
Kansas City	2	4	0
San Diego	2	4	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	5	1	0
Philadelphia	4	2	0
Washington	3	3	0
Phoenix	2	4	0
Dallas	0	6	0
NFC Central			
Chicago	4	2	0
Minnesota	4	2	0
Green Bay	3	3	0
Tampa Bay	3	3	0
Detroit	1	5	0
NFC West			
L.A. Rams	5	1	0
San Francisco	5	1	0
Atlanta	2	4	0
New Orleans	2	4	0

Scores

AFC
Denver 14, Indianapolis 3
L.A. Raiders 20, Kansas City 14
Miami 20, Cincinnati 13
Pittsburgh 17, Cleveland 7
Seattle 17, San Diego 16

NFC
Detroit 17, Tampa Bay 16
Minnesota 26, Green Bay 14
N.Y. Giants 20, Washington 17
Philadelphia 17, Phoenix 5
San Francisco 31, Dallas 14

Interconference
Atlanta 16, New England 15
Buffalo 23, L.A. Rams 20
Houston 33, Chicago 28
New Orleans 29, N.Y. Jets 14

David Boss

Reporting in from baseball, the Raiders' Bo Jackson ran for 85 yards on 11 carries and scored a touchdown.

seven turnovers, and won without injured quarterback Bubby Brister.

"Pittsburgh has come a long way since the beginning of the season," Browns head coach Bud Carson said.

With eight minutes left in the game, the Browns scored to cut the Steelers' lead to 10-7, but Dwight Stone returned the next kickoff 73 yards to the Cleveland 25 to set up the clinching score.

The Bengals started fast in Cincinnati, taking a 13-3 halftime lead as they made a bid for their thirteenth consecutive win at home. But Miami's Dan Marino set up two touchdowns and a field goal in the second half with 41-, 34-, and 36-yard passes to Mark Duper, and the Dolphins won 20-13.

The Dolphins' defense, which sacked Boomer Esiason three times and pressured him into quick throws, limited the Bengals to just 83 yards in the second half.

In Chicago, Warren Moon passed for 317 yards and two touchdowns and led the Oilers to a comeback victory over the Bears. In losing their second successive game, the Bears squandered a nine-point lead (28-19) in the last five minutes and thoroughly disgusted head coach Mike Ditka.

"We're just not playing aggressive football," he said. "We looked scared out there. I don't know if we're capable of winning another game. I don't think we are."

While Ditka fumed, the Oilers went 61 yards, scoring on Moon's one-yard run with 3:38 left, and then drove 88 yards for the winning score—Lorenzo White's 12-yard run with 1:46 remaining. Allen Pinkett's 60-yard run on a third-and-2 play set up the touchdown. Houston also forced six turnovers, intercepting Mike Tomczak four times.

In Buffalo, fifth-year quarterback Frank Reich, starting his first game (as a replacement for injured Jim Kelly), rallied the Bills twice in the fourth quarter to produce a 23-20 victory over the Rams. It was the first loss for Los Angeles, the NFL's last unbeaten team.

With 2:23 left in the game, Reich concluded an 86-yard drive with a one-yard touchdown pass to Thurman Thomas for a 16-13 Bills lead.

But Jim Everett teamed up with Flipper Anderson on a 78-yard, first-down scoring pass with 1:22 to go, and the Rams went back in front 20-16.

Reich retaliated, directing a 64-yard march that he culminated with the winning eight-yard touchdown pass to Andre Reed with 16 seconds left.

"This was really a great thrill for me," Reich said. "I waited a long time for this opportunity."

He was ably assisted by Thomas, who ran for 105 yards and caught nine passes for 67 more.

In Denver, the Broncos' improved defense held the Colts to seven first downs and 128 yards in total offense to win 14-3. The Broncos limited Eric Dickerson to just 35 yards on 13 carries. In 1988, Dickerson ran for 159 yards and four touchdowns when the Colts smashed Denver 55-23.

In Los Angeles, outfielder Bo Jackson of the Kansas City Royals reported to his offseason job with the Raiders on the Wednesday before the team's game with Kansas City. On Sunday, Jackson ran for 85 yards on 11 carries, scored one touchdown on a two-yard run, and set up another with a 45-yard fourth-quarter burst. The Raiders' defense helped by forcing four turnovers in a 20-14 victory.

Joe Montana sat out with a sore elbow, but the 49ers kept rolling as Steve Young passed for two touchdowns and ran for 79 yards in a 31-14 victory over Dallas. Offensive tackle Steve Wallace blocked his third field goal in three years, and safety Johnny Jackson returned it 62 yards to score. ◆

Quote

Vikings head coach **Jerry Burns**, asked after the Herschel Walker trade if a team could have too many all-star players:
"I'd take King Kong if I could get him."

Marv Rubin

Giant Fountain of Youth

When the Giants lost running back Joe Morris for the season with a broken foot before the first game, the club turned to Ottis Anderson. Yes, *that* Ottis Anderson.

When he was young and frisky, Anderson ran for more than 1,000 yards in five of his first six seasons in the NFL. But he had seen only spot duty since being traded to the Giants in 1986, and he was two months away from his thirty-second birthday as the 1989 season began. A lot of people were asking why the Giants made an old man their number-one running back.

"I get tired of all this talk about age," Anderson said. "Age doesn't have anything to do with playing football. It's ability. The key is production."

After six weeks, Anderson was producing at a surprising clip. As the Giants won five of their first six games, he had run for 447 yards and four touchdowns and was on a pace that would give him another 1,000-yard year.

David Drapkin

Anderson: still running.

In week 6, he carried 25 times for 101 yards as New York won a critical game with Washington 20-17. He set up the Giants' first touchdown with a 20-yard run on which he dragged defenders the last 10 yards. He also set up a field goal with an 18-yard gain.

His success has boosted Anderson's career rushing total to 8,741 yards, ninth best in NFL history.

"I love this guy," head coach Bill Parcells said.

Anderson was amused by Parcells. "Every week, he says I'm going to carry about fifteen times," Anderson said. Noting that he was averaging 20 carries a game, he added, "Evidently, Bill can't count."

Kevin W. Reece

Tackle Jerome Brown (99) and the Eagles forced eight turnovers and stifled Phoenix 17-5.

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NEW FROM LUDEN'S®

Week 7

1989 Replay

October 22

George Rose

The crowd at Stanford Stadium observed a moment of silence for victims of the October 17 Bay Area quake.

AFC CHAMPION IN 1986 and 1987, Denver fell to an 8-8 record in 1988. But it was a short slump. When the Broncos came from behind to claim a 24-21 overtime victory at Seattle, they improved their 1989 record to 6-1 and stretched their lead to three games in the AFC West.

"Going into the season, I felt that for people to count us out of it was a mistake," head coach Dan Reeves said. "I felt like we could compete for our division. We're in great position right now. I think we're going to fight hard and not give in to anybody."

After seven weeks of not giving in to anybody, the Broncos were the only AFC team with a 6-1 record, while the NFC boasted two, the 49ers and Giants, who led the NFC West and East, respectively. The 49ers punished the Patriots 37-20, and the Giants stopped the Chargers 20-13.

In their victory over Seattle, the Broncos won on David Treadwell's 27-yard overtime field goal, set up by safety Dennis Smith's 28-yard interception return to the Seattle 10. Treadwell missed a kick from the same distance that could have won the game with 16 seconds left in regulation.

The Seahawks led 14-0 at halftime on John L. Williams's two touchdowns, but Denver's John Elway threw two fourth-quarter touchdown passes to produce the 21-21 tie to set up the extra period.

In Stanford Stadium, where they won Super Bowl XIX, the 49ers overcame a rash of injuries to turn back New England in the first NFL game ever relocated because of a natural disaster—the severe Bay Area earthquake that damaged Candlestick Park. It was a costly victory, however, because San Francisco lost starting safety Jeff Fuller (two fractured bones in lower neck and nerve damage to his right arm), starting linebacker Jim Fahnhorst (fractured foot), backup fullback Harry Sydney (broken arm), and quarterback Joe Montana (sprained knee).

Don Larson

Eric Dickerson ran for 152 yards and the clinching touchdown as the Colts rallied to beat Cincinnati.

Although Montana missed the second half, Steve Young came in to complete 11 of 12 passes for three touchdowns, including bombs of 50 yards to Jerry Rice and 43 to John Taylor. Fullback Tom Rathman had 11 catches for 103 yards.

"There had been a lot of down things throughout the week, a lot of heartache, and we wanted to give the Bay Area something to cheer about," Young said.

The 49ers took over first place because the Rams, who had started 5-0, lost their second consecutive game, 40-21 to New Orleans. The Saints' Bobby Hebert shrugged off strained knee ligaments and the flu to throw three touchdown passes, including 54- and 37-yard bombs to Floyd Turner and Eric Martin.

"I was just praying to God to give me strength, because I was pretty weak before the game," Hebert said.

The Saints' defense was anything but weak. It went after Jim Everett with a passion, sacking the Rams' quarterback six times, including three by linebacker Pat Swilling.

Players of the Week

Brian Drake

Broncos' John Elway

Owen Shaw

Saints' Dalton Hilliard

AFC OFFENSE—John Elway, quarterback, Denver
Elway passed for 344 yards and two fourth-quarter touchdowns to rally the Broncos to a 24-21 overtime victory over Seattle. His 54-yard scoring bomb to Vance Johnson tied the game at 21-21 with 2:19 left.

AFC DEFENSE—Keith Taylor, safety, Indianapolis
Taylor intercepted two passes and forced a fumble to lead the Colts' defense that held Cincinnati to four field goals in a 23-12 triumph. His second interception and 19-yard return to the Bengals' 21 set up Eric Dickerson's 21-yard clinching touchdown run with 1:22 left.

NFC OFFENSE—Dalton Hilliard, running back, New Orleans
Hilliard ran for 87 yards and two touchdowns and caught a 20-yard touchdown pass from Bobby Hebert to lead the Saints to a 40-21 rout of the Rams.

NFC DEFENSE—Mike Merriweather, linebacker, Minnesota
Merriweather had two sacks, two forced fumbles, a fumble recovery, an interception, and four other tackles to lead the Vikings to a 20-7 victory over Detroit. In all, Minnesota sacked Lions quarterback Rodney Peete eight times and forced five turnovers.

In San Diego, the Giants held the Chargers to nine first downs and 179 yards as they beat San Diego in a game not nearly as close as the 20-13 score. New York's Ottis Anderson ran for 96 yards and two touchdowns, while Phil Simms passed for 232 yards.

Buffalo's Jim Kelly still was recuperating from a separated shoulder, but backup Frank Reich improved his record to 2-0 by firing three touchdown passes in the Bills' 34-3 rout of the Jets.

The Bills also rushed for 204 yards, while the Buffalo defense limited the Jets to nine first downs and 154 total yards and recorded five sacks, three by Bruce Smith.

Quote

Mary Rubin

Denver kicker **David Treadwell**, who kicked the game-winning field goal in overtime against Seattle after missing three field goals in regulation:

"If you get thrown from a horse, you've got to get right back on."

Snake-Bit: A Moccasin for Glanville's Foot

Oilers head coach Jerry Glanville is something of a character.

On the sideline, for example, he wears all-black clothes, no matter what the weather. He even has a black raincoat.

And on the Oilers' 1988 road trips, he left two sideline passes at every game for celebrities as diverse as the late Elvis Presley and the Phantom of the Opera.

But Glanville may have outdone himself in 1989 when he coached the Oilers to an impressive 27-0 victory over the Steelers—the day after he was bitten by a poisonous snake.

The coach and his wife Brenda and son Justin, 7, were out riding bikes Saturday afternoon when they stopped to walk through a new home construction site in their neighborhood. Hiding in tall grass on the site was a water moccasin, which bit Glanville—who was wearing thongs—on the top of his right foot.

The coach went to a hospital emergency room for treatment, talked doctors into letting him leave for a team meeting, and returned to the hospital that night. Although the doctors wanted him to stay overnight, Glanville left again, coached the game on Sunday, and then returned for more tests and treatment Sunday night.

Peter Brouillet

Glanville bounced back fast.

During the second half of the game, he began to feel sick because of the medication he had taken, and the Oilers' team doctor ordered him to put food in his stomach right away. So he ate a hot dog on the sideline.

The snake apparently had recently eaten, too, using up much of its venom and sparing Glanville a lot of agony.

"I feel very lucky," he said. "I didn't get struck with [a lot of] venom. They told me if the snake hadn't eaten within seventy-two hours, they would have had to have given me venom serum, which is very bad.

"I had two good-looking holes in my foot...but they're healing up."

In Cincinnati, the Bengals led the Colts 12-9 late in the fourth quarter behind four field goals by Jim Breech, but Indianapolis scored two touchdowns in 45 seconds to prevail 23-12. Cincinnati's James Brooks fumbled at his own 16 and Colts linebacker Duane Bickett recovered with 4:30 left. The Colts scored on Jack Trudeau's three-yard touchdown pass to Albert Bentley for a 16-12 lead with 2:07 left.

After the kickoff, Cincinnati's Boomer Esiason was intercepted by safety Keith Taylor, who returned the ball to the Bengals' 21. On the next play, Eric Dickerson ran those 21 yards for the clinching touchdown. Dickerson, slowed through four weeks by a hamstring injury, said he felt like a new man and gained 152 yards. "When I'm healthy, I'm hard to handle," he said.

The Browns and Bears, who each had lost two games in a row, met in Cleveland, and thanks to Bernie Kosar and an aggressive defense, the Browns came out on top 27-7. It was the first time the Bears were out of first place in the NFC Central since 1983.

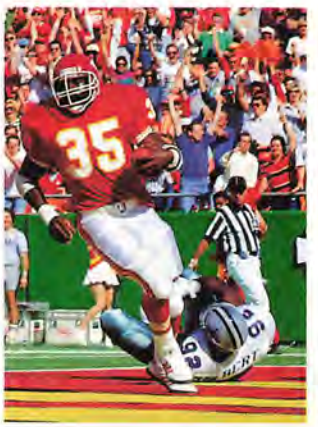
Against the Bears' defense, which was missing four injured starters, Kosar completed 22 of 29 passes for 281 yards, including a 97-yard scoring strike to Webster Slaughter, the longest play from scrimmage in Cleveland history.

Rookie Pete Stoyanovich won his second game for Miami in three weeks when he kicked a 33-yard field goal with six seconds left to push the Dolphins past the Packers 23-20.

Dan Marino passed for 333 yards and two touchdowns and drove the Dolphins 53 yards in the last minute to set up Stoyanovich's kick. Green Bay had tied the score at 20-20 on Don Majkowski's 10-yard touchdown pass to Sterling Sharpe with 53 seconds left.

In Kansas City, Christian Okoye ran for a career-high 170 yards and two touchdowns, and Steve DeBerg hit 17 of 22 passes as the Chiefs kept Dallas winless with a 36-28 victory.

If nothing else, the Cowboys were exciting, as recently acquired running back Paul Palmer ran 63 yards for a touchdown and rookie James Dixon returned a kickoff 97 yards for another score. ◆



Herb Weitman

Kansas City's 260-pound Christian Okoye ran for 170 yards and two touchdowns as the Chiefs beat Dallas.

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	5	2	0
Indianapolis	4	3	0
Miami	4	3	0
New England	2	5	0
N.Y. Jets	1	6	0
AFC Central			
Cincinnati	4	3	0
Cleveland	4	3	0
Houston	4	3	0
Pittsburgh	3	4	0
AFC West			
Denver	6	1	0
Kansas City	3	4	0
L.A. Raiders	3	4	0
Seattle	3	4	0
San Diego	2	5	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	6	1	0
Philadelphia	5	2	0
Washington	4	3	0
Phoenix	3	4	0
Dallas	0	7	0
NFC Central			
Minnesota	5	2	0
Chicago	4	3	0
Green Bay	3	4	0
Tampa Bay	3	4	0
Detroit	1	6	0
NFC West			
San Francisco	6	1	0
L.A. Rams	5	2	0
New Orleans	3	4	0
Atlanta	2	5	0

Scores

AFC
Buffalo 34, N.Y. Jets 3
Denver 24, Seattle 21 (OT)
Houston 27, Pittsburgh 0
Indianapolis 23, Cincinnati 12
NFC
Minnesota 20, Detroit 7
New Orleans 40, L.A. Rams 21
Phoenix 34, Atlanta 20
Washington 32, Tampa Bay 28
Interconference
Cleveland 27, Chicago 7
Kansas City 36, Dallas 28
Miami 23, Green Bay 20
N.Y. Giants 20, San Diego 13
Philadelphia 10, L.A. Raiders 7
San Francisco 37, New England 20

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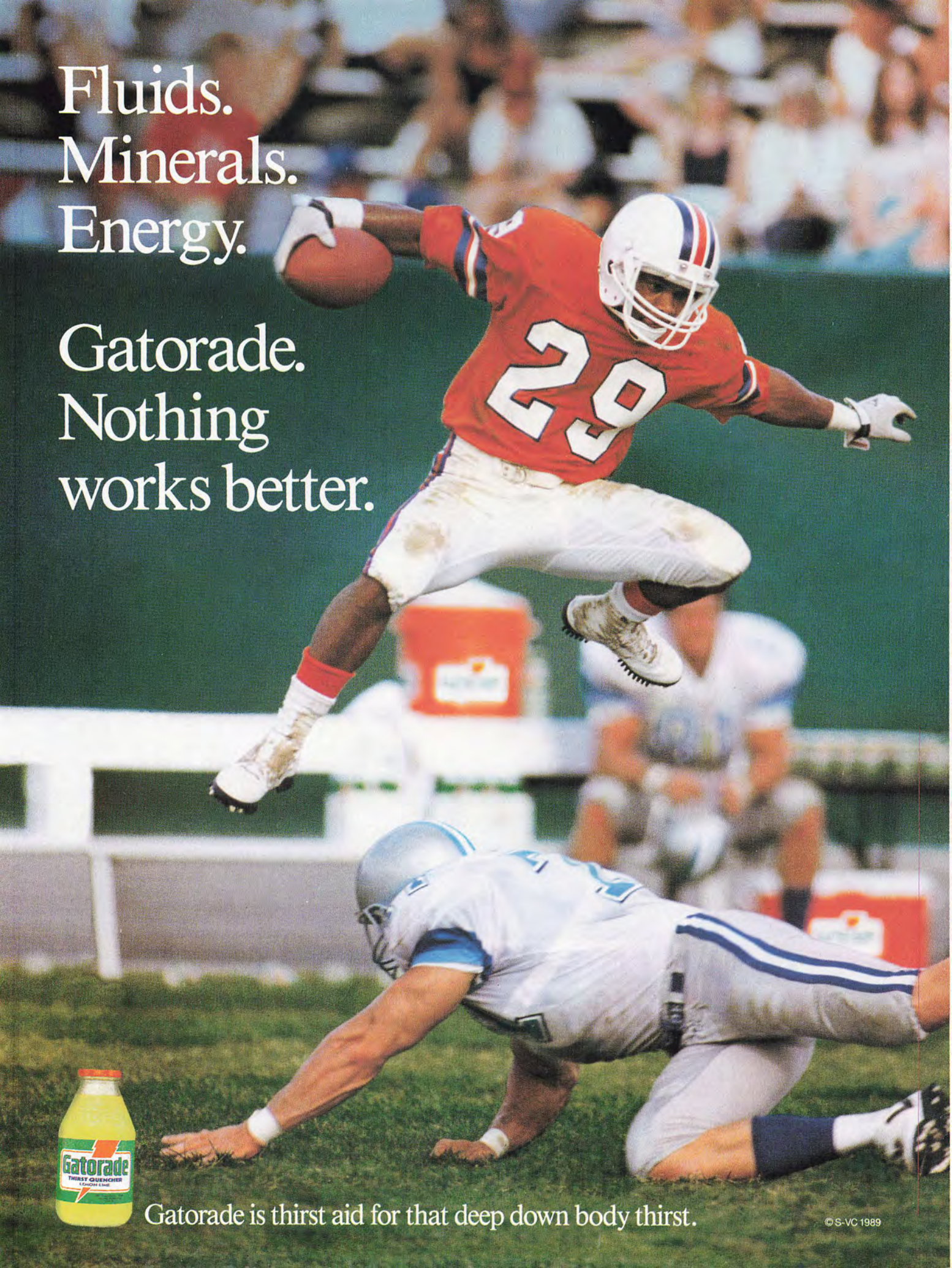
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1989 Replay

October 29

IN THEIR PREVIOUS TWO games, the normally high-scoring Cincinnati Bengals couldn't find the end zone with a map. They lost twice in a row at home and scored only 25 points and one touchdown doing it.

So quarterback Boomer Esiason made a lot of noise in practice.

"All week long in the huddle I'd been saying, 'Who wants to make the big play? Who wants to make the big catch? Who wants to make the big block? Who wants to make the big run?' " Esiason said. "I think they took it upon themselves to make something happen."

What happened was the Bengals scored eight touchdowns to flatten Tampa Bay 56-23. Esiason tied his own team record with five touchdown passes.

Ed Webber

The Browns' Eric Metcalf ran for 48 yards, caught six passes, and threw a touchdown pass against Houston.

"We were just a steamroller today," head coach Sam Wyche said. "We needed this badly."

The Bengals trailed 16-14 in the second quarter, but Esiason threw an eight-yard touchdown pass to Eddie Brown 17 seconds before halftime. Cincinnati went on to score 42 consecutive points.

Overall, Esiason hit Brown twice for touchdowns, threw two more scoring passes to tight end Rodney Holman, and teamed once with Tim McGee. McGee also caught a 46-yard touchdown pass from rookie quarterback Erik Wilhelm. James Brooks ran for 131 yards and another score.

While Esiason was throwing touchdown passes, Miami's Dan Marino found himself in an unfamiliar position—on the ground. Marino, who hadn't been sacked in an NFL-record 19 successive games, hit the AstroTurf twice as Buffalo, the AFC East leader, beat the Dolphins 31-17. The loss snapped Miami's three-game winning streak.

Backup nose tackle Jeff Wright and linebacker Cornelius Bennett got the sacks as the Bills applied heavy pressure.

Bennett also set up a touchdown with an interception, while cornerback Kirby Jackson got two more thefts, returning one 40 yards for a score. On offense, the Bills two-timed the Dolphins with Thurman Thomas, who ran for 148 yards and a 30-yard touchdown, and Larry Kinnebrew, who ran for 121.

In Cleveland, an epic streak came to an end when tight end Ozzie Newsome failed to catch a pass after 150 consecutive games with a reception. He sprained his ankle in the second quarter.

With Newsome out, the Browns

Robert L. Smith

Miami's Dan Marino had not been sacked in 19 games until Buffalo nose tackle Jeff Wright got him.

Quote

Chicago head coach Mike Ditka, noting he spent much of the game screaming on the sideline as the Bears defeated the Rams 20-10:

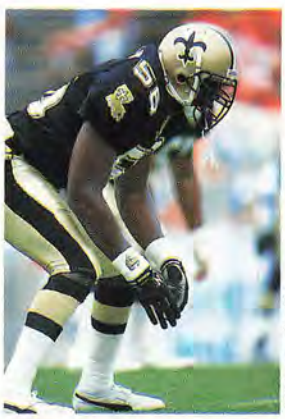
"I yelled enough that I don't have any friends left."

Marv Rubin

Players of the Week

Al Messerschmidt

Browns' Webster Slaughter



Al Messerschmidt

Saints' Pat Swilling

AFC OFFENSE—Webster Slaughter, wide receiver, Cleveland
Slaughter caught 80- and 77-yard touchdown passes from Bernie Kosar as the Browns rallied to beat Houston 28-17. His four catches for 184 yards gave him three successive 100-yard games and a three-week total of 19 catches for 476 yards.

AFC DEFENSE—Eddie Anderson, safety, Los Angeles Raiders
Anderson returned an interception 45 yards for a touchdown, took back another 23 yards to set up a field goal, and made six tackles in the Raiders' 37-24 victory over Washington.

NFC OFFENSE—Don Majkowski, quarterback, Green Bay
Majkowski passed for 367 yards and two touchdowns as the Packers outlasted Detroit 23-20 in overtime.

NFC DEFENSE—Pat Swilling, linebacker, New Orleans
Swilling knocked down a pass, made three sacks for the second consecutive week, and forced two fumbles to break up a pair of Atlanta drives, helping the Saints past the Falcons 20-13.

Bodacious!

In his third season with the Raiders, multi-talented Bo Jackson was off to a fast start.

In the summer, he hammered 32 home runs and drove in 105 runs for the Kansas City Royals.

And now, three games into his autumn with the Raiders, he was averaging 6.2 yards a carry (308 yards on 50 tries).

His latest explosion came against the Redskins. In his first NFL start of 1989, he carried 19 times for 144 yards and scored on a tackle-breaking, 73-yard run. Earlier, he had run for 85 yards on 11 carries against Kansas City—after reporting four days before the game—and 79 yards on 20 tries against Philadelphia.

Los Angeles quarterback Steve Beuerlein marveled at Jackson's ability to get away from tacklers.

"Once Bo gets a head of steam going, these guys don't seem to realize that you can't hit him high and expect him to go down," Beuerlein said. "The only way you can get him down is to go at his legs. If you don't get his legs, I don't think there's anyone that has the speed to catch him."

David Boss

Jackson created action.

"Bo's a great athlete," head coach Art Shell said. "He adds a big dimension to our football team with his speed and quickness."

Jackson's also a strong athlete. Including his big run, he rushed for 118 yards in the second half against Washington.

"You could say that I get more fired up as the game goes on," Jackson said. "The whole team is like a locomotive. We start off slow and just pick up speed and momentum."

"Bo enjoys both his main sport and his 'hobby' [football]," Beuerlein said. "And for good reason. He does some amazing things."

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	6	2	0
Indianapolis	4	4	0
Miami	4	4	0
New England	3	5	0
N.Y. Jets	1	7	0
AFC Central			
Cincinnati	5	3	0
Cleveland	5	3	0
Houston	4	4	0
Pittsburgh	4	4	0
AFC West			
Denver	6	2	0
L.A. Raiders	4	4	0
Seattle	4	4	0
Kansas City	3	5	0
San Diego	2	6	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	7	1	0
Philadelphia	6	2	0
Phoenix	4	4	0
Washington	4	4	0
Dallas	0	8	0
NFC Central			
Chicago	5	3	0
Minnesota	5	3	0
Green Bay	4	4	0
Tampa Bay	3	5	0
Detroit	1	7	0
NFC West			
San Francisco	7	1	0
L.A. Rams	5	3	0
New Orleans	4	4	0
Atlanta	2	6	0

Scores

AFC
Buffalo 31, Miami 17
Cleveland 28, Houston 17
N. England 23, Indianapolis 20 (OT)
Pittsburgh 23, Kansas City 17
Seattle 10, San Diego 7

NFC
Chicago 20, L.A. Rams 10
Green Bay 23, Detroit 20 (OT)
New Orleans 20, Atlanta 13
N.Y. Giants 24, Minnesota 14
Phoenix 19, Dallas 10

Interconference
Cincinnati 56, Tampa Bay 23
L.A. Raiders 37, Washington 24
Philadelphia 28, Denver 24
San Francisco 23, N.Y. Jets 10

fell behind, trailing 10-0 at halftime. Then they dazzled the Oilers with a series of second-half trick plays to win 28-17.

"We said, 'We're not out of it, so let's throw everything we've got at them,'" Browns head coach Bud Carson said.

An 18-yard reverse to wide receiver Reggie Langhorne set up Bernie Kosar's five-yard touchdown run. Then Kosar handed off to Eric Metcalf, who pitched back to Kosar, who threw 80 yards to Webster Slaughter for another touchdown. After Kosar combined with Slaughter on a 77-yard scoring play, the Browns got their fourth touchdown on a 32-yard halfback pass from Metcalf to Langhorne. That last touchdown was set up by a play on which Kosar handed to Metcalf, who handed the ball to Langhorne, who tossed it back to Kosar, who threw to Metcalf for 25 yards.

Bruce Dierdorff

Jim Harbaugh ran and passed the Bears over the Rams after replacing slumping starter Mike Tomczak.

Streaks ended and continued in Denver, where the Eagles scored on Keith Byars's one-yard run with 5:25 left to beat Denver 28-24. The Broncos had won nine in a row at home; it was the Eagles' fourth win in a row, period.

The Eagles sacked John Elway seven times, including 3½ by end Clyde Simmons, but the Broncos' quarterback still passed for two touchdowns and ran for another. Vance Johnson caught nine passes for 148 yards.

The 49ers and Giants kept rolling along with 7-1 records, winning on successive days at the Meadowlands. On Sunday, the 49ers stretched their amazing road record to 6-0 by sinking the Jets 23-10. San Francisco sacked Ken O'Brien nine times, with linebacker Charles Haley getting three of them.

Steve Young started in place of Joe Montana, who was injured, and threw a touchdown pass. When Young had to come out of the game briefly with a knee injury, third-string quarterback Steve Bono threw a 45-yard scoring bomb to Jerry Rice.

"They don't have any weaknesses," Jets head coach Joe Walton said.

On Monday night, the Giants lost quarterback Phil Simms on their first series with a sprained ankle, fell behind the Vikings 7-0, gained only 174 yards all night... and still won 24-14.

New York scored 24 consecutive points in the third and fourth quarters, with 21 of them set up by turnovers.

Pepper Johnson returned an interception off Tommy Kramer 39 yards for one touchdown, and the Giants scored their next two after recovering fumbled kickoffs by Alfred Anderson at the Minnesota 9- and 19-yard lines.

For the first time this season, there were two overtime games on the same weekend. The Patriots and Packers were the winners, both by 23-20 scores.

The Patriots stopped the Colts on Greg Davis's 51-yard field goal with 5:03 left in overtime. Steve Grogan passed for 355 yards and led the winning drive after Davis had missed a 46-yard kick on the last play of regulation.

Against the Lions in Milwaukee, the Packers also won on an overtime field goal, this one a 38-yard kick by rookie Chris Jacke, who had missed a 50-yard attempt with five seconds left in regulation.

Although Detroit lost its seventh game in eight weeks, rookie Barry Sanders ran for 184 yards. ♦

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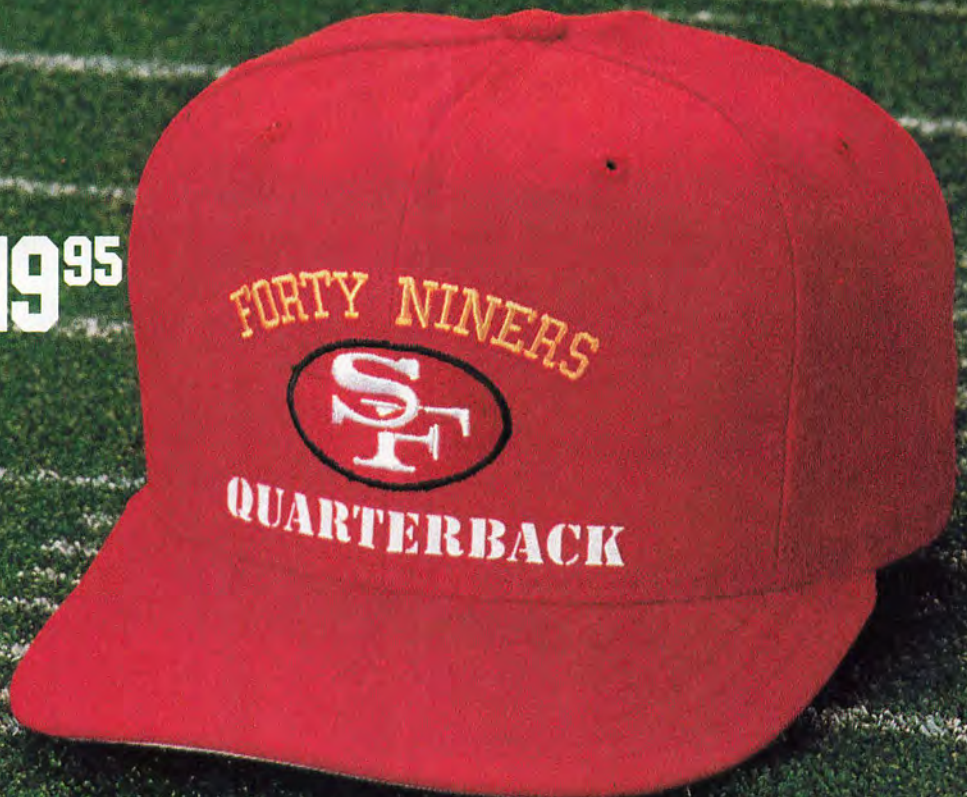

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1989 Replay

November 5

ON FOURTH DOWN, WITH 32 seconds left and his team trailing the Bears by six points, Green Bay's Don Majkowski scrambled right and flipped a 14-yard pass to Sterling Sharpe in the end zone. It was a touchdown...maybe the winning touchdown, or was it?

While the Packers celebrated, a flag sailed from the other side of the field, and Green Bay was penalized for passing beyond the line of scrimmage. That's a tough penalty—five yards and loss of down—so the score was nullified, and the Bears' offense took the field to run out the clock.

But, hold on...replay official Bill Parkinson decided to review the call. After a four-minute delay, he ruled Majkowski had released the ball behind the line of scrimmage. The play was a touchdown. The Packers celebrated all over again, and, after Chris Jacke kicked the extra point, they had defeated the Bears 14-13.

"If anybody doesn't like instant replay now, they're crazy," said Green Bay head coach Lindy Infante.

"I had full confidence that I wasn't over the line," said Majkowski, who passed for 299 yards and both Packers touchdowns.

Green Bay's win—its first in nine games against Chicago—seemed to symbolize the frantic play of an NFL weekend on which four games were decided in the last 32 seconds and another in overtime. Four of those breathless wins could be considered upsets, along with Dallas's more sedate 13-3 victory over the Redskins.

How wild and crazy was it? Consider that Dallas, Atlanta, San Diego, and the Jets, who pulled off upset victories, all were in last place before Sunday and had a combined record of 5-27.

In Atlanta, the Falcons stunned the Bills 30-28 on Paul McFadden's 50-yard field goal with two seconds left, snapping Buffalo's three-game winning streak.

Rob Brown

Bo Jackson scored twice and ran for 159 yards as the Raiders dominated the injury-ridden Bengals 28-7.

The lead changed hands three times in the last 82 seconds. Atlanta took a 27-21 lead on Keith Jones's three-yard touchdown run with 1:22 left. But McFadden's ensuing kickoff was a low line drive that Buffalo's Don Beebe returned 85 yards to the Falcons' 8-yard line. Larry Kinnebrew scored from the 1, and the Bills led 28-27 with 29 seconds left.

"The kickoff really had me down," McFadden said. "It was a poor kick. No hang time. If we had walked in here [the locker room] with a loss, it all would have been on my shoulders."

McFadden, who kicked 54- and 26-yard field goals earlier in the game, got his chance for redemption when Chris Miller threw a 41-yard pass to Stacey Bailey to set up the winning kick.

Another kicker got a second chance in San Diego, where the Chargers stunned the Eagles 20-17, snapping Philadelphia's four-game winning streak.

With time running out and the score tied 17-17, Jim McMahon's 49-yard pass to rookie wide receiver Wayne Walker positioned Chris Bahr for a 44-yard field goal attempt, but the Chargers' kicker missed it. However, San Diego tackle James FitzPatrick was called for a false start.

Because the violation occurred before the snap, the play didn't count. The Chargers were penalized five yards, and the play was repeated.

This time, Bahr kicked from 49 yards out and made it with four seconds left.

Players of the Week

Diane Johnson

Chargers' Leslie O'Neal

Jim Turner

Giants' Lawrence Taylor

AFC OFFENSE—Ken O'Brien, quarterback, New York Jets
O'Brien passed for 386 yards and two touchdowns and led the last-minute field-goal drive that enabled the Jets to beat New England 27-26.
AFC DEFENSE—Leslie O'Neal, linebacker, San Diego
O'Neal made 10 tackles, including 3½ sacks, as he and the Chargers surprised the Eagles 20-17.
NFC OFFENSE—Rich Karlis, kicker, Minnesota
Karlis kicked seven field goals to tie the NFL single-game record (set by Jim Bakken of St. Louis in 1967) in the Vikings' 23-21 victory over the Rams in overtime. With seven successive kicks, Karlis also broke the NFL record for most field goals in a game without a miss. The old mark, held by four players, was six.
NFC DEFENSE—Lawrence Taylor, linebacker, New York Giants
Taylor had three sacks and a total of six solo tackles, spearheading a Giants' defense that held Phoenix to 186 yards in a 20-13 triumph.

Quote

Giants quarterback Jeff Hostetler, who scored the first two touchdowns of his NFL career in a 20-13 victory over Phoenix:

"I had six years to work on my spike."

Mary Rubin

"It's the first time a penalty has ever helped us," Chargers head coach Dan Henning said.

The Jets didn't need a big penalty, but they also won on Pat Leahy's 23-yard, last-second field goal, which beat New England 27-26. The kick snapped New York's five-game losing streak.

Ken O'Brien, who passed for 386 yards and two touchdowns, had given the Jets a 24-12 fourth-quarter lead. But the Patriots' Marc Wilson—replacing injured Steve Grogan and appearing in his first NFL game since 1987—threw touchdown passes to Cedric Jones and Hart Lee Dykes for a 26-24 lead with 1:03 left. Back

Jimmy Cribb

Out three weeks with a separated shoulder, Jim Kelly returned, but his Bills were upset by Atlanta.

came O'Brien to hit four successive passes, three to tight end Keith Neubert and a 36-yarder to tight end Greg Werner, to position Leahy for the winning kick.

The 0-8 Cowboys stunned the Redskins in Washington as Paul Palmer ran for 110 yards and the game's only touchdown. He set up his own score with a 47-yard run.

"We've got a long way to go," Dallas head coach Jimmy Johnson said after his first NFL win. "The rocky days are not over for the Cowboys."

The rocky days were not over for the Los Angeles Rams, either. They lost their fourth in a row after a 5-0 start, falling 23-21 to the Vikings in overtime.

Rich Karlis kicked an NFL-record seven field goals without a miss in regulation for the Vikings. Then, 2:14 into overtime, Minnesota linebacker Mike Merriweather blocked Dale Hatcher's punt out of the end zone for the safety that won it.

The Rams thought they had won when Jim Everett drove them 49 yards to Greg Bell's one-yard touchdown run with 28 seconds left for a 21-18 lead. But the Vikings' Wade Wilson lobbed a 43-yard pass to the Rams' 22-yard line, where Hassan Jones outjumped *four* Rams to catch it. That set up Karlis for a 40-yard field goal with eight seconds to play.

There was another frenzied game in Houston, where Warren Moon completed 30 of 38 passes for 345 yards to rally the Oilers past the Lions 35-31. Detroit led 24-14 in the third quarter, but Moon fired two short touchdown passes and ran for a score to give Houston a lead that held up.

In Los Angeles, Bo Jackson dazzled Cincinnati with 159 yards on 13 carries in the Raiders' 28-7 victory over the Bengals. Jackson ran seven yards for one touchdown—carrying safety Rickey Dixon the last four yards—and then sprinted 92 yards down the left sideline for another on the longest run in Raiders history.

Still unlucky with injuries was Phoenix, which lost wide receiver J.T. Smith, the NFL's leading receiver (62 catches), for the season with a broken leg in a 20-13 loss to the Giants. It meant the Cardinals had lost 16 starters for at least one game this season. ◆

Thunder, Lightning in Kansas City

Peter Brouillet

Okoye is learning fast.

As the NFL season rolled into its second half, the league's leading rusher looked more like a nose tackle than a running back.

Number one was Kansas City's Christian Okoye, who had run for 936 yards, scored eight touchdowns, and reeled off a club-record six 100-yard games.

The latest outburst by the 6-1, 260-pound Okoye came against Seattle as he rushed for 126 yards and a touchdown in a 20-10 win.

"The touchdown play was great," Chiefs head coach Marty Schottenheimer said of the 8-yard run. "It was an inside play, but he bounced outside and got into the end zone."

Okoye is both big *and* fast. At Azusa Pacific in California, he set NAIA outdoor track records in the 100 and 200 meters (10.15, 20.57). He came to America from the African country of Nigeria to compete in track (he also threw the discus, shot put, hammer, and 35-pound weight), and didn't play football until 1984. He's still learning the game.

"It's hard to imagine," Schottenheimer told Rick Dean of the *Topeka Capital-Journal*, "but he's probably at seventy percent of his potential in terms of reads and taking the proper path to the hole."

"I know I'm not at my peak right now," Okoye said. "I'm still learning, but I think I'm getting better, and I'll keep getting better."

He's good enough right now, according to Chiefs center Mike Webster.

"I've learned to get the hell out of his way," the 16-year-veteran Webster said. "I don't want to be in the pile when he hits it."

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	6	3	0
Miami	5	4	0
Indianapolis	4	5	0
New England	3	6	0
N.Y. Jets	2	7	0
AFC Central			
Cleveland	6	3	0
Cincinnati	5	4	0
Houston	5	4	0
Pittsburgh	4	5	0
AFC West			
Denver	7	2	0
L.A. Raiders	5	4	0
Kansas City	4	5	0
Seattle	4	5	0
San Diego	3	6	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	8	1	0
Philadelphia	6	3	0
Phoenix	4	5	0
Washington	4	5	0
Dallas	1	8	0
NFC Central			
Minnesota	6	3	0
Chicago	5	4	0
Green Bay	5	4	0
Tampa Bay	3	6	0
Detroit	1	8	0
NFC West			
San Francisco	8	1	0
L.A. Rams	5	4	0
New Orleans	4	5	0
Atlanta	3	6	0

Scores

AFC
Denver 34, Pittsburgh 7
Kansas City 20, Seattle 10
L.A. Raiders 28, Cincinnati 7
Miami 19, Indianapolis 13
N.Y. Jets 27, New England 26
NFC
Dallas 13, Washington 3
Green Bay 14, Chicago 13
Minnesota 23, L.A. Rams 21 (OT)
N.Y. Giants 20, Phoenix 13
San Francisco 31, New Orleans 13
Interconference
Atlanta 30, Buffalo 28
Cleveland 42, Tampa Bay 31
Houston 35, Detroit 31
San Diego 20, Philadelphia 17

Bob Rosato

Congratulations were in order for Jimmy Johnson (right), whose Cowboys beat Joe Gibbs's Redskins for their first win.

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1989 Replay

November 12

THE RAMS BEGAN THE season as if they were heading for Super Bowl XXIV—and then they turned around and played as if they planned to watch it on TV.

Off to a 5-0 start, they lost four games in the next month and fell to 5-4.

"You talk about backs against the wall—we could feel the stucco," Rams head coach John Robinson said.

He said it with a smile, however, because his team had snapped its slump with an impressive 31-10 victory over the New York Giants, who had come to Anaheim with an 8-1 record. The Rams outgained the Giants 445-207, held them to six yards rushing, and took command of the game by scoring two touchdowns in 14 seconds in the second quarter.

Los Angeles led only 10-3 before Jim Everett threw a 51-yard touchdown pass to Aaron Cox. Then, after linebacker George Bethune recovered a fumble on the ensuing kickoff, Everett lobbed a 21-yard scoring pass to Flipper Anderson for a 24-3 halftime lead.

While Everett threw overhand to stop the Giants, John Elway threw shovel passes—three of them—to help Denver (8-2) wriggle past Kansas City 16-13 and keep the best record in the AFC.

Steve Sewell caught all three of Elway's shovel passes for 56 yards, the last one going 30 yards to the Chiefs' 9. David Treadwell's 26-yard field goal from there won the game with one second left.

"When they called [the last shovel pass], I turned to Sammy Winder. 'I don't think that's a very good call,'" Sewell said. "I was kind of worried about the [play] because we'd run it so many times before."

The Chiefs, who played without Christian Okoye, the NFL's leading rusher (sidelined with a bruised thigh), lost Pro Bowl nose tackle Bill Maas for the season with a broken arm.

While Treadwell was beating Kansas City with one second left, several other kickers were having a good weekend, too. Houston's Tony Zendejas beat Cincinnati on a 28-yard field goal with no time left as the Oilers won the Monday night game 26-24. Chicago's Kevin Butler ran his streak of successful field goals to 22 in a row in the Bears' 20-0 victory at Pittsburgh. And Miami's Pete Stoyanovich kicked a 59-yard field goal, third longest in NFL history, as the Dolphins outscored the Jets 31-23.

David Boss

Kevin Greene sacked Phil Simms twice, and the Rams sacked the Giants to end a four-game losing streak.

The San Francisco Express

Ten weeks into the season, the San Francisco 49ers looked as if they might become the first team to repeat as Super Bowl champions since the 1979 Pittsburgh Steelers.

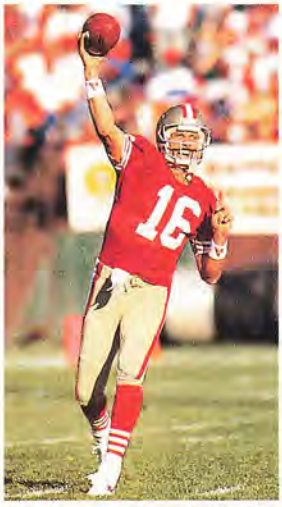
They had the NFL's best record at 9-1, and they also led the league in total offense and scoring and were fourth in defense.

In week 10, they cruised past Atlanta (which had upset Buffalo the week before) 45-3 to stretch their record to 16-2 over their last 18 games (including playoffs).

"The 49ers are a great football team," Atlanta head coach Marion Campbell said. "I haven't seen this football team any better."

As usual, Joe Montana and Jerry Rice were at the center of the action. Montana completed 16 of 19 passes for three touchdowns and scored one himself. Rice caught 38- and 11-yard touchdown passes and went over 1,000 receiving yards for the fourth straight season.

The graceful wide receiver led the NFL with 1,043 yards, had a 20.5 average per catch, and had scored 13 touchdowns. Montana, who topped the NFL in passing, had a stunning 17 touchdown passes and only three interceptions.



George Rose

Montana was unstoppable.

Running back Roger Craig's numbers were down from 1988, but he perked up against the Falcons, running for 109 yards. Fullback Tom Rathman ran for 77 and caught six passes for 43 more yards.

Despite his hot day as a passer, Montana was upset because he and the 49ers fumbled four times and lost two. The two lost fumbles were his fault.

"We played pretty well," Montana said, "but then again, you can go back and point at mistakes we made. It was kind of weird. It was like the Keystone Kops."

The rest of the NFL wasn't laughing.

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	7	3	0
Miami	6	4	0
Indianapolis	4	6	0
New England	3	7	0
N.Y. Jets	2	8	0
AFC Central			
Cleveland	7	3	0
Houston	6	4	0
Cincinnati	5	5	0
Pittsburgh	4	6	0
AFC West			
Denver	8	2	0
L.A. Raiders	5	5	0
Kansas City	4	6	0
San Diego	4	6	0
Seattle	4	6	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	8	2	0
Philadelphia	6	4	0
Phoenix	5	5	0
Washington	5	5	0
Dallas	1	9	0
NFC Central			
Minnesota	7	3	0
Chicago	6	4	0
Green Bay	5	5	0
Tampa Bay	3	7	0
Detroit	2	8	0
NFC West			
San Francisco	9	1	0
L.A. Rams	6	4	0
New Orleans	5	5	0
Atlanta	3	7	0

Scores

AFC
Buffalo 30, Indianapolis 7
Cleveland 17, Seattle 7
Denver 16, Kansas City 13
Houston 26, Cincinnati 24
Miami 31, N.Y. Jets 23
San Diego 14, L.A. Raiders 12

NFC
Detroit 31, Green Bay 22
L.A. Rams 31, N.Y. Giants 10
Minnesota 24, Tampa Bay 10
Phoenix 24, Dallas 20
San Francisco 45, Atlanta 3
Washington 10, Philadelphia 3

Interconference
Chicago 20, Pittsburgh 0
New Orleans 28, New England 24

Week Ten

In Houston—where the lead changed hands five times in the fourth quarter—the Oilers remained a game out of first place in the AFC Central Division, while the defending AFC-champion Bengals lost their fourth game in five weeks.

Cincinnati had the biggest plays from scrimmage—James Brooks's 58-yard touchdown run and Boomer Esiason's 73-yard touchdown pass to tight end Rodney Holman—but the Oilers' special teams scored or set up 13 points.

In Pittsburgh, Butler kicked 39- and 35-yard field goals in the Bears' 20-0 shutout of the Steelers. Butler was only one short of Mark Moseley's NFL mark of 23 successes in a row.

The Bears' defense helped by forcing six turnovers and sacking quarterback Bubby Brister four times. Cornerback Lemuel Stinson set up a touchdown with one interception and stifled a Steelers' drive with another.

Miami's defense stopped the Jets on five third-and-one and fourth-and-one plays in the Dolphins' 31-23 victory over New York. The Dolphins trailed 20-3 in the second quarter, but Dan Marino threw three touchdown passes to lead a 28-point rally that gave them five victories in six weeks.

Stoyanovich's 59-yard field goal for Miami was bettered only by Tom Dempsey's 63-yard kick for the Saints in 1970 and Steve Cox's 60-yarder for Cleveland in 1984.

Miami stayed a game behind Buffalo in the AFC East as the Bills

Craig Melvin

Buffalo trapped Eric Dickerson and the Colts.

Diane Johnson

Tim Spencer scored the winning touchdown in the Chargers' come-from-behind victory over the Raiders.

avenged a 37-14 beating by Indianapolis in October and clobbered the Colts 30-7. It was Indianapolis's third consecutive loss.

"Probably, the turning point was the opening kickoff," Colts head coach Ron Meyer said—and he wasn't kidding.

Buffalo cornerback Mickey Sutton recovered James Pruitt's fumble at the Indianapolis 20 on that kickoff, and 2:12 into the game, Jim Kelly threw an eight-yard touchdown pass to running back Thurman Thomas. Kelly passed for three touchdowns in all—the other two to Andre Reed—and Thomas ran for 127 yards.

In Tampa, the Vikings sacked Vinny Testaverde seven times, giving them a club-record 50 for the season (with six weeks to go), and went on to beat the Buccaneers 24-10. End Chris Doleman had three of the sacks, while cornerback Reggie Rutland scored on a 27-yard fumble runback.

"Minnesota has the best defense in the league," Tampa Bay head coach Ray Perkins said. "They are devastating."

The Raiders had been devastating, too, in recent weeks, and were bidding for their fifth win in six games when they took a 12-0 third-quarter lead in San Diego on four field goals by Jeff Jaeger. But Jaeger's fourth field goal was followed by a kickoff that San Diego's Anthony Miller returned 91 yards for a touchdown.

In the fourth quarter, San Diego linebacker Ken Woodard deflected a Los Angeles punt that went only 14 yards to the Raiders' 23. Tim Spencer then handled the ball on four successive plays—a pass reception and three runs—to go those 23 yards and score from the 5 as the Chargers won 14-12.

At Phoenix, Tom Tupa fired a 72-yard touchdown pass to Ernie Jones with 58 seconds left to lead the Cardinals past Dallas 24-20. The Cowboys had seized a 20-17 lead with only 1:43 left when Troy Aikman threw a 75-yard scoring bomb to rookie James Dixon. In his first game since recovering from a broken finger, Aikman passed for 379 yards and two touchdowns.

In Foxboro, Massachusetts, the Saints raced to a 28-0 lead over the Patriots by scoring four touchdowns in 6:49 of the first and second quarters after a short punt by New England and three turnovers. Dalton Hilliard ran for two of the touchdowns and finished with 106 yards.

But Steve Grogan, who passed for 283 yards, rallied the Patriots to within 28-24 before Saints linebacker Vaughan Johnson recovered an onside kick with 1:14 left to ice the game. ◆

Players of the Week

Jim Turner

Dolphins' Dan Marino

Mike Moore

Cardinals' Tim McDonald

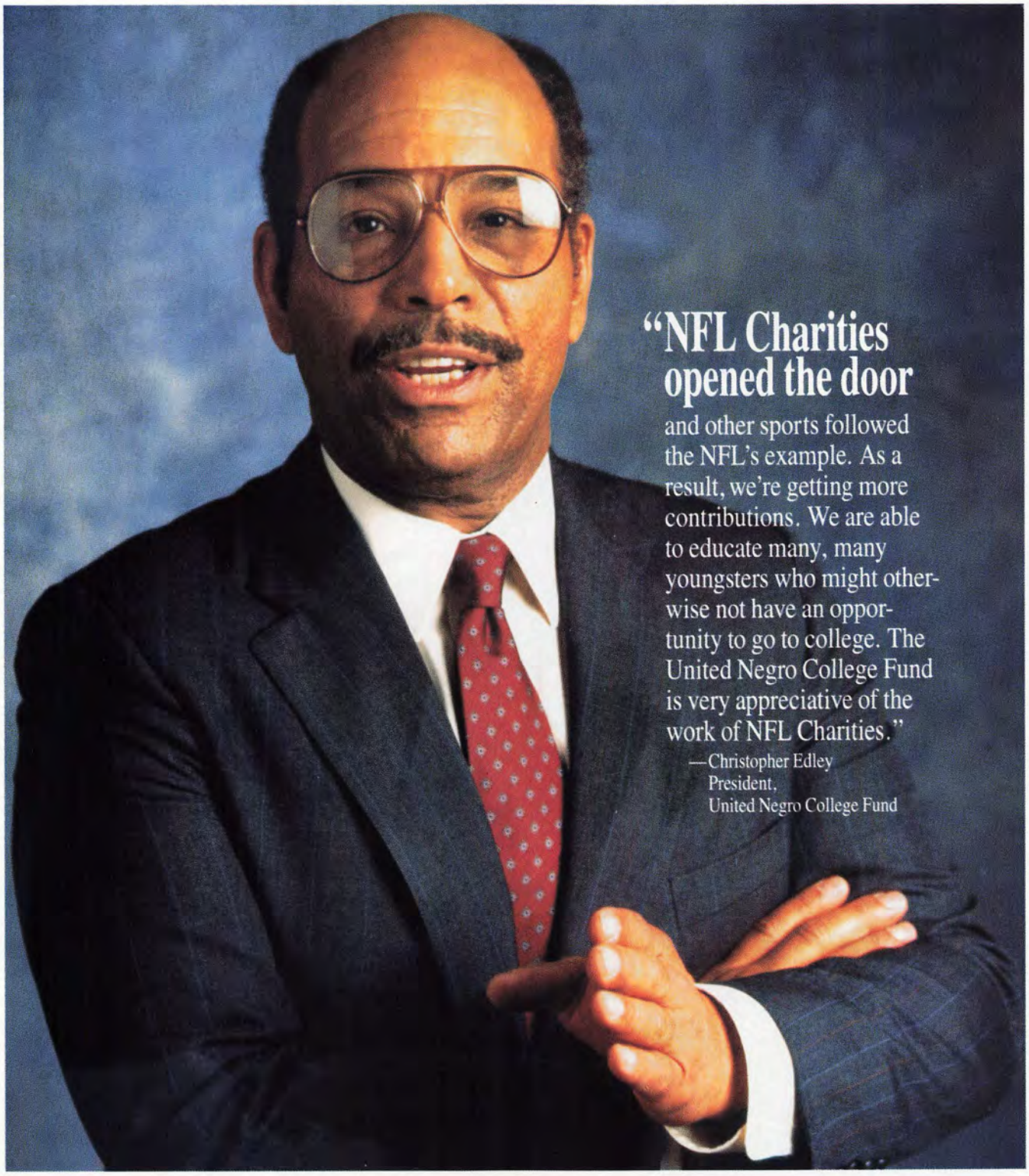
AFC OFFENSE—Dan Marino, quarterback, Miami
Marino passed for 359 yards and three touchdowns—including 78- and 65-yard bombs to Mark Clayton and Scott Schwedes—to rally the Dolphins to a 31-23 victory over the Jets.
AFC DEFENSE—Greg Kragen, nose tackle, Denver
Kragen had a sack, five other tackles, and returned a fumble by Chiefs quarterback Steve Pelluer 17 yards for Denver's only touchdown as the Broncos beat Kansas City 16-13.
NFC OFFENSE—Jim Everett, quarterback, Los Angeles Rams
Everett passed for 295 yards and two touchdowns and hit a team-record 18 consecutive passes at one point to lead the Rams to a 31-10 rout of the Giants.
NFC DEFENSE—Tim McDonald, safety, Phoenix
McDonald ran an interception back 53 yards for a touchdown, returned another one 42 yards, and made five tackles as Phoenix rallied to beat Dallas 24-20.

Quote

Marv Rubin

Jets center **Jim Sweeney**, discussing Miami's Dan Marino, who passed for 359 yards and three touchdowns against New York:

"At times, I wish I had a voodoo doll to stick pins in his arm."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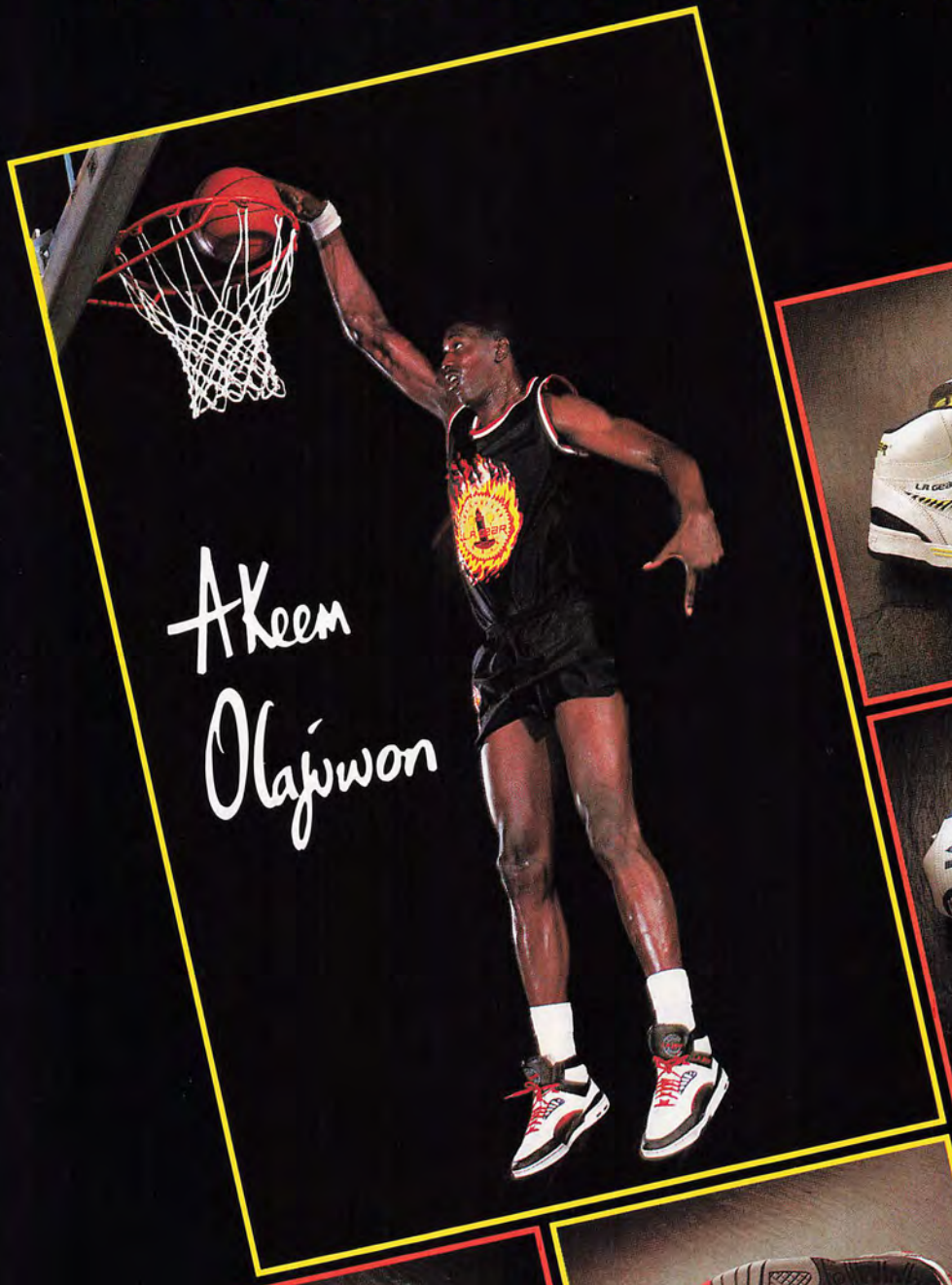

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1989 Replay

November 19

ON SOME NFL SUNDAYS, the worst thing that can happen to a good team is to be heavily favored.

Take week 11, for example. The 49ers, Bears, and Bills all were upset, and favored Cleveland barely escaped with a tie against Kansas City.

The 49ers, who had won six games in a row, lost at home to resurgent Green Bay 21-17. The Bears lost to Tampa Bay for the second time this season 32-31. And Buffalo fell 33-24 to New England's fourth-quarter rally.

"They [the 49ers] are the world champions," Green Bay quarterback Don Majkowski said, "but they're just another team in the way of where we want to get."

Where the Packers want to get is the playoffs, and, with a 6-5 record, they were tied for second with the Bears in the NFC Central.

Majkowski, playing with sore ribs and a brace on his knee, ran for two touchdowns and threw a four-yard scoring pass to Sterling Sharpe. But he had a lot of help from the 49ers, who committed four turnovers and 10 penalties and made several costly errors on Green Bay's 73-yard, game-winning drive in the fourth quarter.

Majkowski finished the drive with an eight-yard touchdown run on a quarterback draw with 11:55 left. Along the way, San Francisco was hit with three penalties in four plays for 35 yards, one of them nullifying a 94-yard interception return for a touchdown by safety Chet Brooks.

San Francisco's Joe Montana passed for 325 yards and two scores, but was sacked six times.

The Bears were trying to avenge an earlier 42-35 loss to Tampa Bay. Now they have *two* losses to avenge in 1990.

Tampa Bay had lost five in a row, but the Buccaneers intercepted Jim Harbaugh three times and also recovered a fumble, setting up 20 points and building a 23-10 lead with 4:43 left. Mike Tomczak replaced Harbaugh at that point, and the two teams scored 30 points in the wild last 4:27.

In one 2-minute, 41-second span, Tomczak threw three touchdown passes. First he hit Ron Morris for a 58-yard score. Then, after Tampa Bay's Vinny Testaverde connected with Mark Carrier on a 78-yard touchdown pass for a 29-17 lead, Tomczak pulled the Bears in front 31-29 with 26- and 52-yard scoring passes to Wendell Davis.

But Testaverde struck back with a 56-yard drive, setting up Donald Igwebuike's 28-yard field goal that won the game on the last play, 32-31.

"Some of the excitement I can do without," winning head coach Ray Perkins said. "But it's great for us to be the first Tampa Bay team to beat the Bears twice in a year."

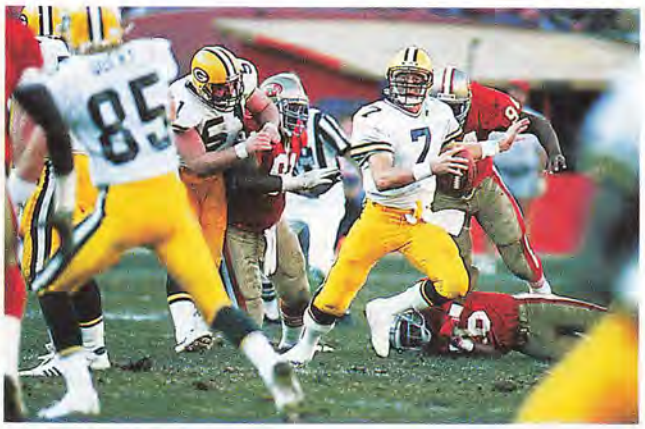
Of little consolation to the Bears was Kevin Butler's twenty-third consecutive field goal (40 yards), which equaled Mark Moseley's NFL record.

At New England, the Bills fell into a first-place tie with oncoming Miami in the AFC East, despite taking a 24-13 lead on the Patriots with 8:46 left.

New England won the rest of the game 20-0 as Steve Grogan threw a 14-yard touchdown pass to Hart Lee Dykes, Jason Staurovsky kicked two field goals, and cornerback Maurice Hurst returned an interception of a pass by Jim Kelly 16 yards for another score. Hurst's touchdown put the Patriots ahead 30-24 with 2:49 left. John Stephens hurt the Bills, too, running for 126 yards and catching four passes for 76 more.

"We're not as good as we think we are," Kelly said.

In Cleveland, the Browns held NFL rushing leader Christian Okoye of Kansas City to 40 yards on 21 carries, but stymied themselves on offense with five turnovers. With 3:48 to go, the Chiefs' Nick



Dan Honda

Inspirational Don Majkowski shrugged off two injuries to lead surprising Green Bay past the 49ers, 21-17.

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	7	4	0
Miami	7	4	0
Indianapolis	5	6	0
New England	4	7	0
N.Y. Jets	2	9	0
AFC Central			
Cleveland	7	3	1
Houston	7	4	0
Cincinnati	6	5	0
Pittsburgh	5	6	0
AFC West			
Denver	9	2	0
L.A. Raiders	5	6	0
Kansas City	4	6	1
San Diego	4	7	0
Seattle	4	7	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	9	2	0
Philadelphia	7	4	0
Phoenix	5	6	0
Washington	5	6	0
Dallas	1	10	0
NFC Central			
Minnesota	7	4	0
Chicago	6	5	0
Green Bay	6	5	0
Tampa Bay	4	7	0
Detroit	2	9	0
NFC West			
San Francisco	9	2	0
L.A. Rams	7	4	0
New Orleans	6	5	0
Atlanta	3	8	0

Scores

AFC
Cleveland 10, Kansas City 10 (OT)
Houston 23, L.A. Raiders 7
Indianapolis 27, N.Y. Jets 10
New England 33, Buffalo 24
Pittsburgh 20, San Diego 17
NFC
Green Bay 21, San Francisco 17
L.A. Rams 37, Phoenix 14
New Orleans 26, Atlanta 17
Philadelphia 10, Minnesota 9
Tampa Bay 32, Chicago 31
Interconference
Cincinnati 42, Detroit 7
Denver 14, Washington 10
Miami 17, Dallas 14
N.Y. Giants 15, Seattle 3

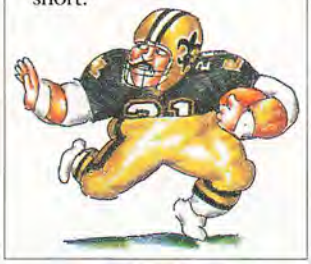
David Boss

Gene Stallings coached his last game for Phoenix, then was dismissed the next day.

Quote

Saints quarterback **Bobby Hebert**, discussing 5-8 running back Dalton Hilliard, who ran for 158 yards as New Orleans beat Atlanta 26-17:

"He's not little, he's short."



Marv Rubin

Lowery tied the score at 10-10 on a 41-yard field goal.

Lowery, the second-leading field-goal kicker (by percentage) in NFL history at the start of the season, then had three chances to win the game...and couldn't. He missed a 45-yard attempt with four seconds left (wide right), a 39-yard attempt with no time left after the Browns were penalized for offsides (wide left), and a 47-yard attempt with three seconds left in overtime (short).

"This is a tough stadium to kick in," Lowery said. "The last kick in overtime was like trying to kick out of a sand trap."

Miami, bidding for its first playoff berth since 1985, made it six victories in the last seven games, but the Dolphins had to scramble to get past Dallas 17-14.

Trailing 14-3, Dan Marino was sacked as time was running out in the first half, so he tried to signal time out. The clock ticked down to :00, but referee Jerry Markbreit, ruling that Marino had asked for the time out before time elapsed, ordered one second put back on the clock.

The Dolphins' quarterback reacted by firing a 48-yard "Hail Mary" pass to rookie wide receiver Andre Brown, who outjumped six Cowboys to make the catch for a touchdown and cut the score to 14-10. The Dolphins drove 62 yards in the fourth quarter for the winning touchdown.

In Anaheim, the Rams won their second straight as Jim Everett passed for 308 yards and a pair of touchdowns to Henry Ellard in a 37-14 rout of Phoenix.

The next day, unhappy Phoenix head coach Gene Stallings announced he would not seek a contract renewal at the end of the season. Instead, he was dismissed a couple of hours later, and running backs coach Hank Kuhlmann was named to replace him for the final five games.

In a big game at Philadelphia, the Eagles edged the Vikings 10-9 when Cris Carter made a falling,

Players of the Week

Michael Heinz

Bengals' Boomer Esiason

Owen Shaw

Rams' Henry Ellard

AFC OFFENSE—Boomer Esiason, quarterback, and Tim McGee, wide receiver, Cincinnati
Esiason completed 30 of 39 passes for 399 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Bengals to a 42-7 rout of the Lions. McGee caught a club-record 11 passes for 194 yards and one touchdown.
AFC DEFENSE—Brent Williams, end, New England
Williams sacked Jim Kelly twice, had six other tackles, and forced a fumble and recovered it as the Patriots surprised the Bills 33-24.
NFC OFFENSE—Henry Ellard, wide receiver, L.A. Rams
Ellard took over the NFL lead in receiving yardage, catching five passes for 163 yards, including touchdown bombs of 49 and 42 yards from Jim Everett, to help the Rams rout Phoenix 37-14.
NFC DEFENSE—Pat Swilling, linebacker, New Orleans
Swilling won the honor for the second time in four weeks, sacking Chris Miller 3 ½ times in the Saints' 26-17 victory over Atlanta.

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From Benchwarmer to Firestarter

Except for a few grass stains on his knees, Gary Kubiak's uniform usually is spotless. The Denver Broncos' backup quarterback gets the ball from center all right—but as a kick holder.

"It's tough when everybody's leaving the ball park feeling good about a win, and you really didn't do anything," he says.

That all changed on a Monday night in Washington, when Kubiak made the fifth start of his seven-year career in the NFL. John Elway came down with the stomach flu, and Kubiak was informed at 5 o'clock that he was opening on national television four hours later against the Redskins.

Rising to the occasion, he passed for 123 yards and two touchdowns, ran five times for 16 yards, punted twice—once to the Washington 4-yard line—and directed a 14-10 victory that increased Denver's record to 9-2, best in the AFC.

"He made some great plays, some great throws, and moved the ball well," Denver head coach Dan Reeves said.

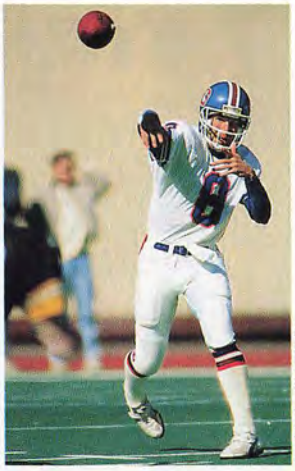
Kubiak also overcame adversity. He lost a fumble on the Denver 8 in the game's first minute. The Redskins' Jamie Morris scored on the next play.

But the Broncos' quarterback rebounded to throw one- and five-yard touchdown passes to Melvin Bratton and Ricky Nattiel, and he should have had a third scoring pass. From the Washington 39, early in the fourth quarter, Kubiak hit Vance Johnson inside the 5 but the wide receiver dropped it.

Undaunted, Kubiak later directed a 53-yard drive that ate up the game's last 6:45.

The day after the game, he still was enjoying his moment in the limelight.

"It's kind of nice to be sore for a change," he said.



Paul Spinelli/NFLP

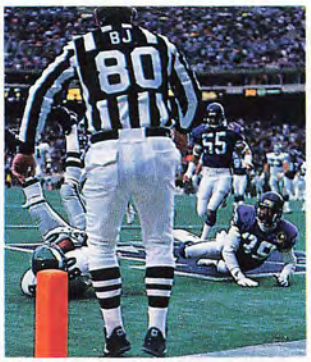
Kubiak saved the Broncos.

one-handed catch of a three-yard pass from Randall Cunningham for the winning touchdown with 2:32 left.

The touchdown was set up by Herschel Walker's fumble that was recovered by the Eagles and returned 24 yards to the Vikings' 20—the first 17 yards by linebacker Byron Evans and the last seven by cornerback Eric Allen, who caught a lateral from Evans.

Three hours earlier, Walker had returned the game's opening kickoff 93 yards for a touchdown, but Rich Karlis missed the extra point—the difference in the game.

Rod Woodson also returned a kickoff for a touchdown, streaking 84 yards as Pittsburgh nipped San Diego 20-17. The Steelers drove 91 yards for the winning score, sending Merril Hoge into the end zone on a one-yard run on fourth down. ♦



Al Tielemans

Cris Carter's falling catch gave the Eagles a victory.

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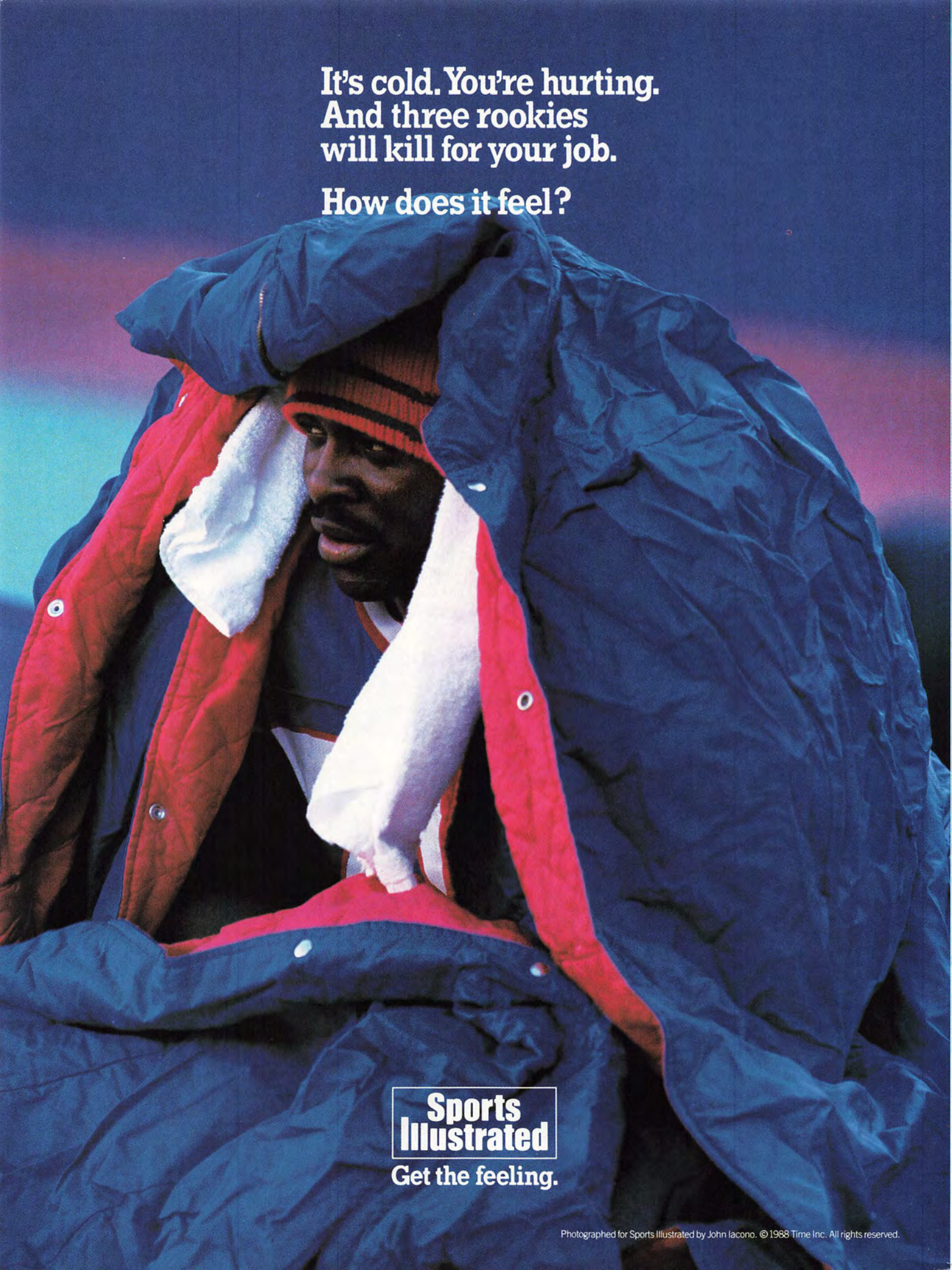
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Sports Illustrated
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1989 Replay

November 23

CHRISTMAS CAME A MONTH early in Denver, where the Broncos gave their rabid fans a gift.

In routing Seattle 41-14, the Broncos became the first NFL team to clinch a division title this season and only the second ever to clinch a championship after 12 games of a 16-game season (Buffalo did it in 1988).

"This is a great feeling," head coach Dan Reeves said. "We were feeling awfully low last year [when the two-time AFC champions slumped to 8-8]. This turnaround is a tribute to everyone in the organization."

It particularly was a tribute to Reeves, who won his fourth division title with the Broncos and stretched his home record to 54-14. The Broncos galloped to a 38-0 halftime lead on the sinking Seahawks as John Elway threw four touchdown passes in the first half—two to Vance Johnson—and then sat out the second half.

Defensively, the Broncos sacked Seattle quarterbacks Dave Krieg and Kelly Stouffer eight times. After 12 weeks, they ranked fourth in the NFL in total defense (in 1988, the Broncos ranked twenty-second in total defense). Of small consolation to the Seahawks was Steve Largent's ninety-ninth career touchdown catch—a 31-yard toss from Krieg that tied Don Hutson's NFL record.

Another mark was set in New Orleans, where second-year wide receiver Willie (Flipper) Anderson caught 15 passes for an NFL-record 336 yards to help rally the Rams to a 20-17 victory over the Saints in overtime. Stephone Paige of Kansas City had 309 receiving yards in 1985. Anderson also broke the 44-year-old Rams record of 303 yards by Jim Benton, who set the mark for the Cleveland Rams in 1945.

"Amazing, unbelievable," Rams quarterback Jim Everett said of Anderson. "I can't explain it. I knew he was going to catch everything I threw up there."

Shrugging off six sacks, Everett passed for 454 yards, despite the absence of injured Henry Ellard, who led the NFL in receiving yards. With Ellard out, Everett found Anderson all over the field, including the end zone on a 15-yard touchdown strike with 62 seconds left that tied it 17-17.

Anderson also set up both of his touchdowns with catches. He then set up Mike Lansford's game-winning 31-yard field goal in overtime with two more receptions for 40 yards. In addition, Anderson drew a 35-yard interference call on the winning drive. In defeat, the Saints' Dalton Hilliard ran for 112 yards and threw a 35-yard touchdown pass to Eric Martin.

Besides the heroics in Denver and New Orleans, week 12 was full of upsets. Green Bay edged Minnesota 20-19, Pittsburgh hammered Miami 34-14, and Detroit stunned Cleveland 13-10 on Thanksgiving Day.

In defeating the Vikings, the Packers moved into a first-place tie with Minnesota in the NFC Central. Green Bay's Don Majkowski, who didn't practice all week while nursing sore ribs, completed his first 14 passes, threw for a total of 276 yards, and fired 34- and 9-yard touchdown strikes to Sterling Sharpe. Sharpe caught 10 passes for 157 yards.

Players of the Week

Paul Jasienski

Chiefs' Leonard Griffin

David Boss

Rams' Willie Anderson

AFC OFFENSE—Vance Johnson, wide receiver, Denver
Johnson scored two touchdowns and set up two, catching six passes from John Elway for 154 yards in the Broncos' 41-14 rout of Seattle. The victory clinched the AFC West title.
AFC DEFENSE—Leonard Griffin, end, Kansas City
Griffin had six tackles, including 2 ½ sacks, in the Chiefs' stunning 34-0 victory over the Oilers.
NFC OFFENSE—Willie Anderson, wide receiver, L.A. Rams
Anderson caught 15 passes for an NFL-record 336 yards as the Rams edged New Orleans 20-17 in overtime. His 15-yard touchdown catch with 1:02 left in the fourth quarter sent the game into overtime.
NFC DEFENSE—Pierce Holt, end, San Francisco
Holt sacked Phil Simms four times, had two other tackles, and broke up a pass as the 49ers (9-2) beat the 9-2 Giants 34-24.

Robert Mayer

Tim Worley ran—and dived—for 95 yards as the Steelers beat Miami in a rainstorm.

Quote

Raiders wide receiver **Mervyn Fernandez**, trying to explain his lack of popularity with reporters—despite his team-leading eight touchdown catches:
"Maybe it's my cologne."

Marv Rubin

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	8	4	0
Miami	7	5	0
Indianapolis	6	6	0
New England	4	8	0
N.Y. Jets	3	9	0
AFC Central			
Cleveland	7	4	1
Houston	7	5	0
Cincinnati	6	6	0
Pittsburgh	6	6	0
AFC West			
Denver	10	2	0
L.A. Raiders	6	6	0
Kansas City	5	6	1
San Diego	4	8	0
Seattle	4	8	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	9	3	0
Philadelphia	8	4	0
Washington	6	6	0
Phoenix	5	7	0
Dallas	1	11	0
NFC Central			
Green Bay	7	5	0
Minnesota	7	5	0
Chicago	6	6	0
Tampa Bay	5	7	0
Detroit	3	9	0
NFC West			
San Francisco	10	2	0
L.A. Rams	8	4	0
New Orleans	6	6	0
Atlanta	3	9	0

Scores

AFC
Buffalo 24, Cincinnati 7
Denver 41, Seattle 14
Indianapolis 10, San Diego 6
Kansas City 34, Houston 0
L.A. Raiders 24, New England 21
Pittsburgh 34, Miami 14
NFC
Green Bay 20, Minnesota 19
L.A. Rams 20, New Orleans 17 (OT)
Philadelphia 27, Dallas 0
San Francisco 34, N.Y. Giants 24
Tampa Bay 14, Phoenix 13
Washington 38, Chicago 14
Interconference
Detroit 13, Cleveland 10
N.Y. Jets 27, Atlanta 7

Cornerback Dave Brown saved the Packers' victory with two interceptions in the last four minutes, running his career total to 59 (sixth on the NFL's all-time list).

In Miami, Dan Marino fired a 66-yard touchdown pass to Mark Clayton, and the Dolphins took a 14-0 lead against Pittsburgh. But Marino then suffered a bruised shoulder on a jarring tackle, losing some velocity on his passes, and the Dolphins' afternoon turned into a soggy nightmare.

Two inches of rain fell on Joe Robbie Stadium in the next hour, while the Steelers splashed to 34 points in 23 minutes to leave Miami reeling.

"I guess we just washed away with the rain," Miami linebacker Barry Krauss said.

While the Dolphins floated, Merril Hoge ran for three short touchdowns, and the Pittsburgh defense scored or set up 17 points. Safety Carnell Lake scooped up one fumble, ran two yards, and then pitched the ball to cornerback Dwayne Woodruff, who waded the last 21 to complete a 23-yard scoring play.

Houston was 2-3 on the road this season, while Kansas City had been tough at home, but the Chiefs' 34-0 victory in Kansas City still was a shock.

"They came out and tried to stick it in our faces and we stuck it right back in theirs," Chiefs linebacker Dino Hackett said. While the Oilers were penalized a team-record 16 times, the Chiefs' defense and special teams scored or set up 17 points. Cornerback Albert Lewis blocked the sixth punt of his career (counting playoffs), and cornerback J.C. Pearson took it a yard for a touchdown.

It was a depressing and tragic week in Atlanta. On Friday night, rookie tackle Ralph Norwood was killed in an auto accident. On Sunday, the shaken Falcons fell to 0-7 on the road this season, losing to the Jets 27-7. And on Tuesday, head coach Marion Campbell resigned. He was replaced by assistant head coach Jim Hanifan.

Linebacker Greg Townsend trapped John Stephens as the Raiders shut down New England's running game 24-21.

George Rose

In Washington, the Redskins routed the Bears, who lost their sixth game in eight weeks, 38-14. Washington outgained Chicago 492-191 and led in first downs 35-13. Mark Rypien passed for 401 yards and four touchdowns, while Art Monk had nine catches for 152 yards and two touchdowns. Monk raised his career receiving total to 636—fourth on the all-time list.

"I refuse to give credit to the other people, because we stink," Bears head coach Mike Ditka said. "We are absolutely an atrocious football team right now."

In Indianapolis, Colts fans chanted "We Want Strock!"—for backup quarterback Don Strock—as starter Jack Trudeau and the rest of the team's offense floundered all day against the Chargers. Trudeau missed two series with a cut finger on his passing hand and came back wearing a one-fingered glove.

Facing a 6-3 loss, however, the harried quarterback marched the Colts 87 yards in six plays, throwing a game-winning 25-yard touchdown pass to Bill Brooks with 1:54 left. ◆

Barry Good? Barry Great!

Four days before Detroit's Thanksgiving Day game with Cleveland, Lions running back Barry Sanders sprained an ankle against Cincinnati.

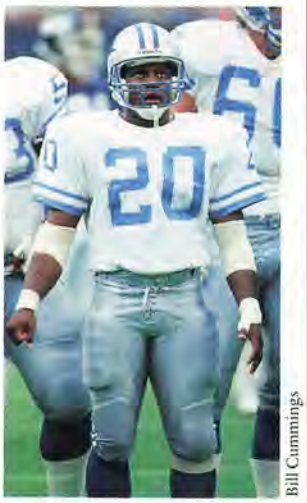
When the holiday arrived, Sanders's ankle still was swollen. But he played anyway, ran for 145 yards, caught two passes for 44 more, and led Detroit to a surprising 13-10 victory. He was the first player to rush for more than 100 yards against the Browns this season.

"He's strong, he runs hard, and he's very quick," Cleveland linebacker Mike Johnson said.

Detroit head coach Wayne Fontes, who made the 1988 Heisman Trophy winner the third overall draft pick despite his height (5-8), was elated.

"As far as I'm concerned, Barry is far better than any back we've seen this year," he said. "It's hard for me to believe he won't be rookie of the year."

Sanders's fourth 100-yard game sent him past 1,000 for the season (1,016), making him only the third Lions player to crack that barrier. Steve Owens and Billy Sims, both of whom were Heisman Trophy winners from Oklahoma, were the first two.



Bill Cummings

Sanders had a nice holiday.

"That Barry Sanders is Billy Sims reincarnated," said Browns defensive end Al Baker, who played with Sims in Detroit. "He's an excellent back."

Sanders, who was averaging 5.3 yards a carry, tried to keep it in perspective.

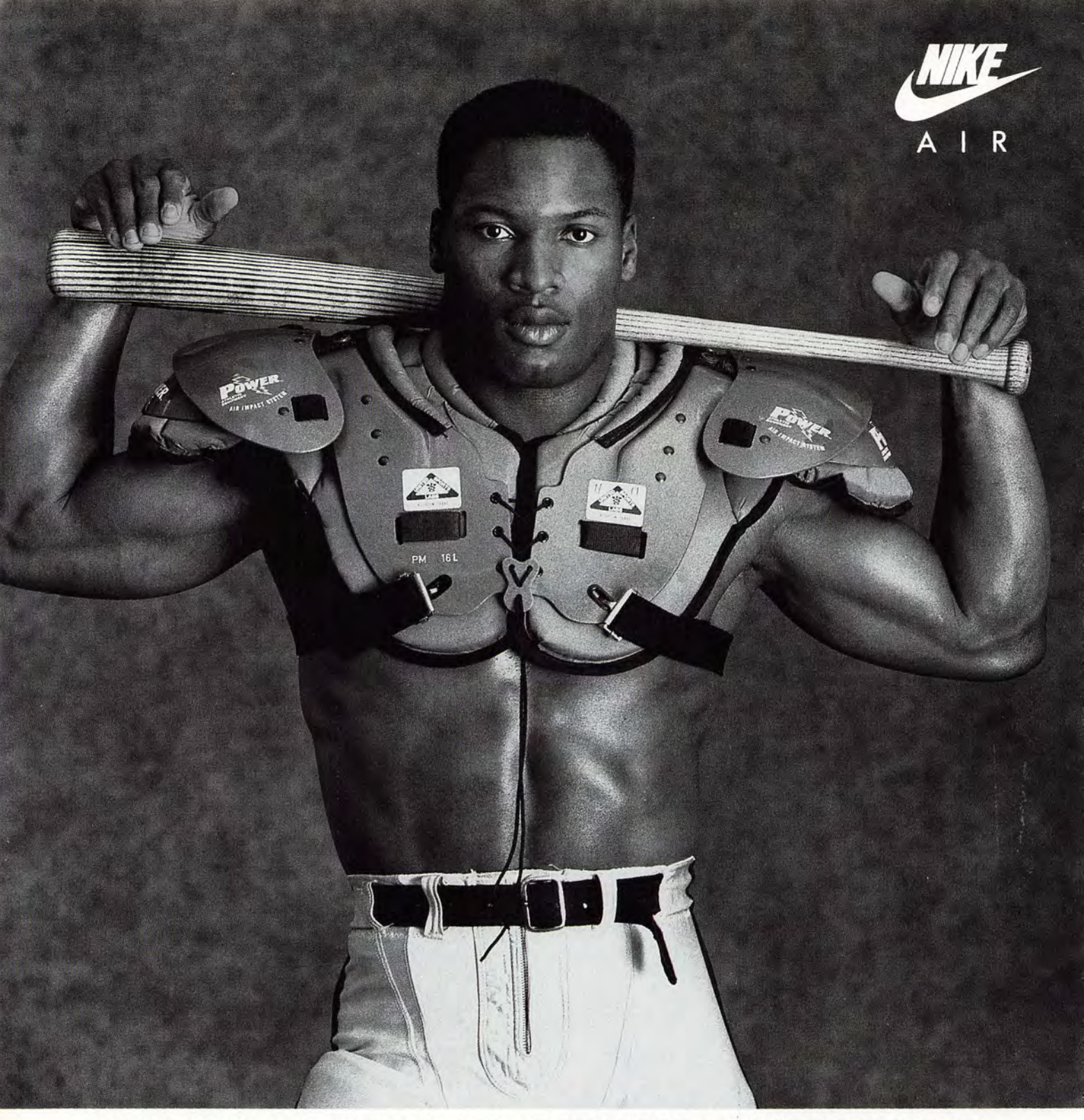
"Gaining a thousand yards is very special," he said. "But the offensive line blocked very well."

Lions nose tackle Jerry Ball, a sideline observer, said there was more to it than that.

"By the time you get to where Barry is," Ball said, "he's not there anymore."

GO.

BOEING



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1989 Replay

December 3

When it was over, when the two teams had come in from the cold, the Eagles were excited, and the Giants were glum.

"I feel like [we're] division champions," said defensive end Reggie White.

Giants head coach Bill Parcells wasn't surprised.

"They'll win the division unless they screw up," he said.

The Eagles had pulled into a first-place tie with the Giants in the NFC East (both teams were 9-4), but by winning 24-17 they had swept the season series from New York. Thus, if the two teams finished in a tie, Philadelphia would win the title.

The Eagles' victory came on a day when the wind-chill factor was 16 degrees below.

The wind also gusted to 30 miles per hour as the Eagles scored all of their points after turnovers—intercepting two passes by Phil Simms and recovering two fumbles by the Giants' quarterback. The defense sacked Simms five times, held him to an 11-for-37 passing day, and scored two first-quarter touchdowns, one on end Clyde Simmons's 60-yard interception return.

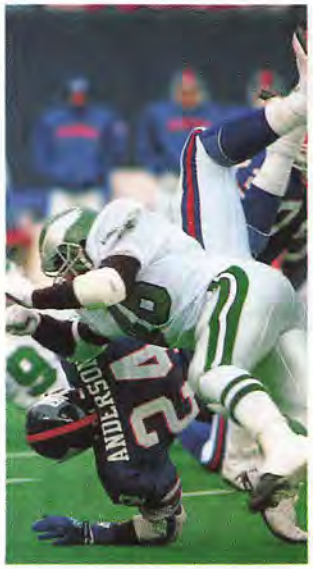
Quarterback Randall Cunningham set up the winning touchdown in the fourth quarter when he pinned the Giants deep in their own territory with a wind-aided 91-yard punt—third longest in NFL history. Cunningham's punt from his own 2-yard line sailed about 60 yards in the air and then rolled all the way to the New York 7 (the ball was returned to the 16).

Keith Byars scored the winning touchdown from the 2 after defensive tackle Mike Golic sacked Simms, forcing a fumble that tackle Mike Pitts recovered on the 7.

The wind-chill factor in Pittsburgh was 25 degrees below zero, but the Houston Oilers, who were 2-4 on the road and used to playing indoors, sloshed through a snowstorm to defeat the Steelers 23-16 and seize control of first place in the AFC Central Division.

"Pittsburgh was saying we couldn't play in the cold—well, we did," Oilers quarterback Warren Moon said.

Moon threw two touchdown passes in the last two minutes of the first half—to Curtis Duncan and Drew Hill—and led a late 80-



David Drapkin

Down went Ottis Anderson—courtesy of Eagles safety Wes Hopkins—and down went the Giants 24-17.

Michael Heinz

Joe Kelly (58), Tim Krumrie (69), and Leon White (51) surrounded Eric Metcalf. The Bengals beat the Browns.

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	8	5	0
Miami	7	6	0
Indianapolis	6	7	0
New England	5	8	0
N.Y. Jets	4	9	0
AFC Central			
Houston	8	5	0
Cleveland	7	5	1
Cincinnati	7	6	0
Pittsburgh	6	7	0
AFC West			
Denver	10	3	0
L.A. Raiders	7	6	0
Kansas City	6	6	1
Seattle	5	8	0
San Diego	4	9	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	9	4	0
Philadelphia	9	4	0
Washington	7	6	0
Phoenix	5	8	0
Dallas	1	12	0
NFC Central			
Green Bay	8	5	0
Minnesota	8	5	0
Chicago	6	7	0
Tampa Bay	5	8	0
Detroit	4	9	0
NFC West			
San Francisco	11	2	0
L.A. Rams	9	4	0
New Orleans	6	7	0
Atlanta	3	10	0

Scores

AFC
Cincinnati 21, Cleveland 0
Kansas City 26, Miami 21
L.A. Raiders 16, Denver 13 (OT)
New England 22, Indianapolis 16
Houston 23, Pittsburgh 16
N.Y. Jets 20, San Diego 17
Seattle 17, Buffalo 16

NFC
Detroit 21, New Orleans 14
Green Bay 17, Tampa Bay 16
L.A. Rams 35, Dallas 31
Minnesota 27, Chicago 16
Philadelphia 24, N.Y. Giants 17
San Francisco 23, Atlanta 10
Washington 29, Phoenix 10

Players of the Week

Paul Jasienski

Raiders' Mike Dyal (84)

Scott Cunningham

Redskins' A.J. Johnson

AFC OFFENSE—Mike Dyal, tight end, Los Angeles Raiders
Dyal caught four passes for 134 yards and a touchdown in the Raiders' 16-13 overtime victory over Denver. His 67-yard touchdown catch sent the game into overtime, and his two catches for 41 yards set up the winning field goal.

AFC DEFENSE—David Fulcher, safety, Cincinnati
Fulcher intercepted a pass and made nine tackles as the Bengals throttled Cleveland 21-0, Cincinnati's first shutout since 1980.

NFC OFFENSE—Richard Johnson, wide receiver, Detroit
Johnson caught eight passes for 248 yards and scored the winning touchdown on a 75-yard catch in Detroit's 21-14 upset of New Orleans. His yardage total was the second highest in Lions history.

NFC DEFENSE—A.J. Johnson, cornerback, Washington
Johnson set up a field goal with one interception, returned another 59 yards for a touchdown, and made seven tackles as the Redskins ripped the Cardinals 29-10.

yard drive that won the game. Backup running back Lorenzo White rushed for 115 yards and plunged a yard for the winning touchdown with 21 seconds left. White carried on the last five plays.

Steelers rookie Tim Worley ran for 103 yards himself, but quarterback Bubby Brister was sacked three times by linebacker Johnny Meads.

The game not only had cold and snow, it also had controversy. The Oilers mistakenly got *four* time outs instead of the allotted three in the first half, helping them score a late touchdown.

In the Metrodome, where it was nice and warm, the Vikings remained in a first-place tie with Green Bay in the NFC Central by defeating the Bears 27-16, Chicago's seventh loss in nine weeks. Minnesota's Wade Wilson, who had thrown only four touchdown passes all season, fired a 46-yarder to Hassan Jones and a 24-yarder to Anthony Carter.

Bob Weddle

Christian Okoye ran for 148 yards and scored on this three-yard run as Kansas City trimmed Miami 26-21.

The Bears' Kevin Butler set an NFL record with his twenty-fourth successive field goal—33 yards—but the streak died when his next attempt, from 44 yards, was blocked by backup safety Brad Edwards.

The Packers pulled off their weekly rally to edge Tampa Bay 17-16, winning their fourth one-point game of the season. Rookie Chris Jacke culminated the comeback by kicking a 47-yard field goal as time ran out. Quarterback Don Majkowski had stopped the clock with one second left by throwing the ball into the grass at the 29.

"We are the type of team where anything is possible," Packers head coach Lindy Infante said.

For the day, Majkowski passed for 331 yards and two touchdowns—both to Sterling Sharpe, who had eight catches for 169 yards. Sharpe's 77 catches for the season eclipsed the legendary Don Hutson's team mark of 74, which was set in 1942.

The Rams also came from behind in the fourth quarter, bouncing back from a 10-point deficit to outscore Dallas 35-31 for their fourth win in a row.

Led by Troy Aikman, who threw four touchdown passes, the Cowboys scored 21 consecutive points to grab a 31-21 lead and had the ball with time running out. But running back Daryl Johnston fumbled with 4:20 left and Rams linebacker Larry Kelm recovered at the Dallas 44.

With 3:58 remaining, Jim Everett threw a 39-yard touchdown pass to Ron Brown, and with 1:50 left he fired a 23-yard scoring pass to Aaron Cox for the winning points. Everett threw four touchdown passes in all, two to Cox.

In Atlanta, the 49ers won their tenth successive road game (going back to last season), rolling past the Falcons 23-10.

Joe Montana aggravated his bruised ribs late in the second quarter, and left the game with San Francisco trailing 10-6. But Steve Young came off the bench to complete 11 of 12 passes, including a 38-yard touchdown strike to John Taylor, and sneaked a yard for another score as the 49ers won the second half 17-0.

In Los Angeles, Denver rolled up 26 first downs to 11 for the Raiders, controlled the ball for almost twice as long (44:03 to 22:59), and lost—16-13 in overtime. Jeff Jaeger kicked his third field goal of the game, a 26-yard effort with 7:02 gone in the extra period, to win it.

Raiders cornerback Lionel Washington set up a field goal with one interception and killed a Denver threat with another at the Los Angeles 34 in the last minute of regulation.

Seattle had lost four games in a row, but the Seahawks surprised the AFC East-leading Bills 17-16 in the Kingdome as Dave Krieg and John L. Williams teamed on a winning 51-yard touchdown pass with 5:38 left. Krieg passed for 298 yards in handing the Bills their fourth straight road loss. ◆

The Schottenheimer Self-Improvement Course

David Boss

Portrait of a winner

From 1987-88, the Kansas City Chiefs played 31 games ...and lost 22 of them. Not surprisingly, they got a new head coach.

For the first time in franchise history, the club hired a man with NFL head-coaching experience—former Cleveland Browns coach Marty Schottenheimer.

"When he first talked to the team, he talked about going to the Super Bowl," quarterback Steve DeBerg told Bill Althaus of the *Independence* [Missouri] *Examiner*. "Guys were looking around at each other like 'What's this guy talking about?' Now we know."

Schottenheimer is used to success. He took the Browns to the playoffs four times in four years and won three AFC Central titles. He quickly restored Kansas City to respectability.

After 13 weeks of the season, the Chiefs had a 6-6-1 record and a shot at the playoffs, and definitely were a team on the rise. In week 12, they stunned Houston 34-0; in week 13, they turned back Miami 26-21.

The defense had been outstanding all year—the Chiefs were second in the NFL in fewest yards allowed—but the offense gained 438 yards and 25 first downs against the Dolphins. DeBerg threw two touchdown passes, Stephone Paige caught seven passes for 133 yards and a touchdown, and Christian Okoye ran for 148 yards and another touchdown.

"Just look around this locker room," Okoye said. "Have you ever seen so much confidence? This is like a whole new team. We're all thinking about the playoffs."

"Marty's a winner," safety Deron Cherry said. "And he has this team believing in itself. I don't think there's a team in the league that can stop us if we keep playing like we have the past few weeks."

If instilling a positive attitude is the first job of a coach, Schottenheimer already was a huge success.

Quote

Marv Rubin

Houston head coach **Jerry Glanville,** asked why backup Lorenzo White carried a career-high 23 times for 115 yards in a snowstorm at Pittsburgh:

"He's got the biggest feet on the team."

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1989 Replay

December 10

FOR THE 49ERS, IT WAS business as usual.

For the fourth year in a row and sixth in the last seven, they won the NFC Western Division title—but it wasn't easy.

Playing on the road against their fierce division rivals, the Los Angeles Rams, the 49ers had to overcome their own mistakes and two 17-point deficits to beat the Rams 30-27 and win the right to defend their Super Bowl championship.

The 49ers ran their overall record to 12-2, finished their road record at 8-0, and clinched the home-field advantage throughout the playoffs.

"This one's pretty satisfying," quarterback Joe Montana said. "It gives us the home-field advantage in the playoffs and that means a lot to me. I don't want any blizzards."

The only blizzard in this spectacular Monday night game came from Montana-thrown footballs as he and wide receiver John Taylor rallied the 49ers from 17-0 first-quarter and 27-10 fourth-quarter deficits. Montana passed for a personal-high 458 yards and three touchdowns, and Taylor caught 11 of his throws for a club single-game record 286 yards and two touchdowns.

Taylor's touchdown plays both came on short passes that he turned into 92- and 95-yard scores. He caught the first pass at his own 19, the second at his 17, and then burst through the Rams' secondary. Helping out was Jerry Rice, who threw key downfield blocks on both touchdowns.

The Rams were on the verge of putting the game away, however, with a 27-17 fourth-quarter lead and a second-and-goal play on the San Francisco 4-yard line. But Pro Bowl center Doug Smith never got his snap to quarterback Jim Everett, and linebacker Matt Millen recovered the loose ball on the 5. Taylor went 95 yards on the next play to cut the lead to 27-23.

When Ron Brown fumbled the ensuing kickoff, backup fullback Keith Henderson recovered at the Los Angeles 27, and Montana took the 49ers in for the winning touchdown—Roger Craig's one-yard run with 3:42 left.

With two weeks to go, only the 49ers and Broncos were in the playoffs, but Minnesota and Houston were close. The Vikings ran their home record to 7-0 and moved within one victory of their first NFC Central title since 1980 by overwhelming Atlanta 43-17. The Oilers held off Tampa Bay 20-17 and moved within one win of their first AFC Central title.

In Minneapolis, defensive end Chris Doleman sacked the Falcons' Chris Miller three times and forced two fumbles that tackles Keith Millard and Tim Newton returned 31 and 5 yards for touchdowns. Before Millard scored, the Vikings led just 20-17.

"Doleman strips the ball and, bam, instead of being in the game and it being tight, it's havoc," Falcons interim head coach Jim Hanifan said.

Bruce Dierdorff

Barry Sanders ran for 120 yards, caught three passes, and scored twice as Detroit overpowered the sinking Bears.

Giants Showed Coach Heart of a Champion

George Gojkovich

The Giants wouldn't yield.

The New York Giants began the season with an 8-1 record, and there were comparisons to their Super Bowl championship team of 1986.

But then they lost three of four games, including their second of the year to division rival Philadelphia, and, when they went to Denver, they desperately needed a win. Of course, Denver was not a good place to get it. The Broncos were 54-14 at home with Dan Reeves as head coach.

But, playing in a game-long snowstorm—and despite the absence of six injured starters—New York grabbed a 14-0 lead, then hung on tenaciously for a 14-7 victory over the team that had won the AFC West title two weeks earlier.

"That's one of the greatest wins since I've been with the Giants," head coach Bill Parcells said. "I'm ecstatic. We don't have the greatest football team, but we've got character."

On their first series of the game, the Giants showed their character by plowing 85 yards through the snow to Ottis Anderson's three-yard touchdown run. Seven minutes later, little Dave Meggett raced 57 yards to score with a screen pass on a *third-and-31* play. Then New York played tough, tough defense.

John Elway kept trying, though. Despite the falling snow and wind-chill factor of zero degrees, the Broncos' quarterback passed for 292 yards, including a 32-yard touchdown strike to Michael Young with 14:29 left.

But one third-quarter Denver drive was stopped when linebacker Gary Reasons flew through the air to tackle running back Bobby Humphrey for a one-yard loss on a fourth-and-goal play from the 1. And a bid to tie with 1:45 left in the game died when Elway threw incomplete on fourth down from the Giants' 15.

"We've got plenty of heart," said Reasons, who had 14 tackles, 11 of them solos. "The guys showed up ready to play."

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	8	6	0
Miami	8	6	0
Indianapolis	7	7	0
New England	5	9	0
N.Y. Jets	4	10	0
AFC Central			
Houston	9	5	0
Cleveland	7	6	1
Cincinnati	7	7	0
Pittsburgh	7	7	0
AFC West			
Denver	10	4	0
L.A. Raiders	8	6	0
Kansas City	7	6	1
Seattle	6	8	0
San Diego	4	10	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	10	4	0
Philadelphia	10	4	0
Washington	8	6	0
Phoenix	5	9	0
Dallas	1	13	0
NFC Central			
Minnesota	9	5	0
Green Bay	8	6	0
Chicago	6	8	0
Tampa Bay	5	9	0
Detroit	5	9	0
NFC West			
San Francisco	12	2	0
L.A. Rams	9	5	0
New Orleans	7	7	0
Atlanta	3	11	0

Scores

AFC
Indianapolis 23, Cleveland 17 (OT)
Miami 31, New England 10
Pittsburgh 13, N.Y. Jets 0
Seattle 24, Cincinnati 17
NFC
Detroit 27, Chicago 17
San Francisco 30, L.A. Rams 27
Minnesota 43, Atlanta 17
Philadelphia 20, Dallas 10
Interconference
Houston 20, Tampa Bay 17
Kansas City 21, Green Bay 3
L.A. Raiders 16, Phoenix 14
New Orleans 22, Buffalo 19
N.Y. Giants 14, Denver 7
Washington 26, San Diego 21

Even without injured Herschel Walker, the Vikings rushed for 220 yards (89 by Rick Fenney). Rich Karlis kicked five field goals.

In Houston, the Oilers led Tampa Bay 20-3 on two Warren Moon touchdown passes and then desperately hung on to win as Vinny Testaverde led the Buccaneers' comeback.

Testaverde fired two second-half touchdown passes and had Tampa Bay on the move again with time running out. But with 1:18 left, his 27-yard pass completion was knocked away from running back James Wilder by safety Jeff Donaldson. Safety Bubba McDowell recovered on the Oilers' 18 to kill the final threat.

"I really didn't think it was a fumble," McDowell said. "I thought it was an incomplete pass, but I jumped on the ball anyway."

While Minnesota and Houston closed in on titles, the Bears, who had won the NFC Central five successive years, were eliminated by Detroit 27-17. It was Chicago's eighth loss in 10 games. The Lions were going the other way. It was their third win in a row and fourth in five weeks.

Detroit's Barry Sanders kept piling up rookie-of-the-year votes as he ran for 120 yards, caught three passes for 39, returned two kickoffs for 59, and scored twice.

"He'd step one way, and [we'd] go the other way," said Bears veteran middle linebacker Mike Singletary.

The Buffalo Bills lost their fourth game in six weeks and sank into a first-place tie with Miami in the AFC East. They lost despite a snowfall that should have given the cold-weather Bills an advantage over New Orleans, which plays in a domed stadium. But the Saints won 22-19.

Former replacement quarterback John Fourcade replaced Bobby Hebert and passed for 302 yards and two touchdowns. Dalton Hilliard ran for 97 yards and scored on a 54-yard pass.

Miami hung in the race with a 31-10 victory over New England. Dan Marino passed for 300 yards and ran a yard for a touchdown, and rookie Sammie Smith scored three times on one-, seven-, and two-yard runs.

The Raiders ran their record to 6-0 at home under head coach Art Shell (who took command October 3) by rallying to edge Phoenix 16-14. The Cardinals took a 14-9 lead with 5:10 left when Gary Hogeboom finished off a 90-yard drive with a two-yard touchdown pass to tight end Jay Novacek.

But Vance Mueller's 49-yard kickoff return set up the Raiders' game-winning drive that ended with Marcus Allen's one-yard scoring dive with 40 seconds to go. Allen had missed nine games with a knee injury.

Earlier in the game, Bo Jackson, the younger member of the Raiders' tailback tandem, ran for 114 yards and set up a field goal with a 50-yard run.

In Philadelphia, a saddened Randall Cunningham led the NFC East-leading Eagles to a 20-10 victory over Dallas. Cunningham and the Eagles were stunned by the heart-attack death of quarterbacks coach Doug Scovil the day before the game.

"Doug was like a father and a brother to me," Cunningham said.

In Washington, Joe Gibbs won his one-hundredth game as Redskins head coach when his team rallied to beat frustrated San Diego 26-21. Six of the Chargers' 10 losses were by five points or fewer.

Rookie Billy Joe Tolliver passed for 350 yards and two touchdowns to give the Chargers a 14-0 first-quarter lead. But Mark Rypien threw for 302 yards and two scores to lead the comeback.

Art Monk caught nine of Rypien's passes to take over the number-three spot on the NFL's all-time receiving list with 651 catches—surpassing his coach with the Redskins, Charley Taylor, who caught 649.

At the Meadowlands, rookie Tim Worley scored on a 35-yard run as the improving Steelers beat the Jets 13-0 for their first shutout since 1985.

"We still have a shot at the playoffs," Steelers quarterback Bubby Brister said. ◆

Players of the Week

Michael Heinz

Seahawks' Steve Largent

Peter Brouillet

49ers' John Taylor

AFC OFFENSE—Steve Largent, wide receiver, Seattle
Largent made a leaping grab of a Dave Krieg pass in the back of the end zone for the one-hundredth touchdown catch of his career to break the NFL record of 99 he shared with Don Hutson and to help Seattle surprise Cincinnati 24-17. He also set up the winning touchdown with a 33-yard catch and had five receptions in all.
AFC DEFENSE—Mike Prior, safety, Indianapolis
Prior intercepted a Bernie Kosar pass and returned it 58 yards for a touchdown to give the Colts a dramatic 23-17 overtime victory over the Browns. He also made nine tackles and stole the ball from wide receiver Webster Slaughter to break up a drive.
NFC OFFENSE—John Taylor, wide receiver, San Francisco
Taylor caught 11 passes for a 49ers-record 286 yards and scored on 92- and 95-yard receptions to lead San Francisco past the Rams 30-27.
NFC DEFENSE—Chris Doleman, end, Minnesota
Doleman sacked Atlanta's Chris Miller three times, had another tackle for a loss, and forced two fumbles, which were returned for touchdowns by tackles Keith Millard and Tim Newton, as the Vikings bombed the Falcons 43-17.

George Rose

Marcus Allen returned to help the Raiders beat Phoenix.

Quote

Eagles safety **Andre Waters**, upset that Philadelphia fans were throwing snowballs on the field during a game with Dallas:

"They wouldn't want us to go to their jobs and throw snowballs at them."

Marv Rubin

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Week 15

1989 Replay

December 16

WITH A WEEK TO GO IN the 1989 season, the race to the playoffs looked like the counter at a pre-Christmas sale.

Fourteen teams still were pushing and shoving for seven playoff spots—10 teams in the AFC (where four berths were available) and four in the NFC (chasing three spots). Computers were working overtime.

Calculators were working overtime in Cincinnati, where the Bengals stayed in the playoff chase by routing—and running up the score on—Houston 61-7. The Oilers were one of three teams that could have won division titles in week 15, but failed.

"They're just such an obnoxious team," Wyche said of Houston. "We've sent them home with their tails between their legs, which is as it should be."

While Esiason threw two touchdown passes to Eddie Brown and one each to Tim McGee and Rodney Holman, safety David Fulcher intercepted three passes and also recovered a fumble on the game's first play, leading to a touchdown after only 1:01 of the game.

It was a lot closer in Cleveland, where the Browns played their fourth overtime game of the year—and finally won one after two losses and a tie, beating the Vikings 23-17. With 24 seconds left in regulation, Matt Bahr sent the game into overtime tied at 17-17 with a 32-yard field goal. For Bahr, that was justice. The week before, he missed 39- and 35-yard kicks at the end of regulation and in overtime when the Browns lost to the Colts 23-17.

Bahr didn't get a chance to win this game, however. Cleveland won on backup quarterback—and holder—Mike Pagel's 14-yard touchdown pass to linebacker Van Waiters on a fake field-goal play.

"Defensive players always want

Lou Witt

Houston's Mike Rozier (30) couldn't find any running room as the Oilers were destroyed by the Bengals.

Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	8	7	0
Indianapolis	8	7	0
Miami	8	7	0
New England	5	10	0
N.Y. Jets	4	11	0
AFC Central			
Houston	9	6	0
Cleveland	8	6	1
Cincinnati	8	7	0
Pittsburgh	8	7	0
AFC West			
Denver	11	4	0
L.A. Raiders	8	7	0
Kansas City	7	7	1
Seattle	7	8	0
San Diego	5	10	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	11	4	0
Philadelphia	10	5	0
Washington	9	6	0
Phoenix	5	10	0
Dallas	1	14	0
NFC Central			
Green Bay	9	6	0
Minnesota	9	6	0
Chicago	6	9	0
Tampa Bay	6	9	0
Detroit	5	10	0
NFC West			
San Francisco	13	2	0
L.A. Rams	10	5	0
New Orleans	8	7	0
Atlanta	3	12	0

Scores

AFC
Cincinnati 61, Houston 7
Indianapolis 42, Miami 13
Pittsburgh 28, New England 10
San Diego 20, Kansas City 13
Seattle 23, L.A. Raiders 17
NFC
Detroit 33, Tampa Bay 7
Green Bay 40, Chicago 28
New Orleans 30, Philadelphia 20
N.Y. Giants 15, Dallas 0
Washington 31, Atlanta 30
Interconference
Cleveland 23, Minnesota 17 (OT)
Denver 37, Phoenix 0
L.A. Rams 38, N.Y. Jets 14
San Francisco 21, Buffalo 10

The Vikings' 23-17 loss to the Browns kept them from clinching in the NFC Central, and the Bills lost to the 49ers 21-10, missing a chance to win the AFC East.

The Giants were the only new team to qualify for the playoffs as they clinched at least a wild-card berth with a 15-0 whitewash of Dallas. When the Eagles lost to the Saints 30-20 on Monday night, the Giants also moved to within one victory of the NFC East title. But of the teams that struck out, nobody fell as hard as the Oilers, who had beaten Cincinnati in five of their last six meetings.

"It's like playing against the bully in your high school," said Bengals quarterback Boomer Esiason, who passed for 326 yards and four touchdowns. "You finally reach up and slug him in the teeth, and he runs away.

"But I feel bad about it being like this."

Cincinnati head coach Sam Wyche didn't feel bad about it at all. When the score was 45-0, he had the Bengals execute an onside kick to set up another touchdown. And, with the score 58-7 and 21 seconds left, he had Jim Breech kick a 30-yard field goal.

Eddie's on the Money

Pete J. Groh

Murray was nearly perfect.

No NFL player has been more consistent in the past two years than kicker Eddie Murray of the Lions.

Murray made four field goals as Detroit won its fourth game in a row, beating Tampa Bay 33-7. With one game to go, Murray had kicked 39 field goals in 41 attempts over the last two seasons.

"My kicker is not only one of the better ones in the NFL this season, but of all time," Lions head coach Wayne Fontes said. "Whenever Eddie goes in to kick, we just put it in the bank."

The Lions have been banking on Murray for 10 years, which is why his nickname in Detroit is "Money," as in "Eddie Money" or "Money in the Bank."

In 1988 he tied the NFL one-season field-goal accuracy mark (95.24 percent), making 20 in 21 attempts. Through 15 games in 1989, he had made 19 of 20 and also kicked 32 successive conversions.

The Lions' oldest player at 33, Murray was asked if he could explain his extraordinary success.

"It's nothing I'm physically doing different," he said. "I think I'm just reaping the benefit of hard work and experience over all these years.

"I know what it takes to get ready—both physically and mentally."

He also knows how to be consistent. His up-to-date career field-goal percentage stood at .762, fourth best of all time.

to be offensive players," Waiters said of his role as eligible receiver on the play.

Bernie Kosar was offensive, too, throwing two touchdown passes and setting up the winning score with a 39-yard strike to Reggie Langhorne.

By winning, the Browns set up a season-ending game with Houston for the AFC Central title.

Ron Vesely

Green Bay's Keith Woodside helped beat the Bears with 116 yards rushing, including a 68-yard touchdown.

The Vikings and Packers headed to the wire tied for first in the NFC Central as the Packers stayed alive with a 40-28 smashing of the Bears. Chicago, which had won five division titles in a row, had now lost five consecutive games and 9 of 11.

"Take all your hurts and put them together and you can't even imagine how much I hurt," Bears head coach Mike Ditka said.

Neal Anderson tried to make Ditka feel better, running for 119 yards and catching 21- and 49-yard touchdown passes from Jim Harbaugh, but it wasn't enough.

Green Bay's Keith Woodside rushed for 116 yards, including a 68-yard scoring run, while Don Majkowski passed for one touchdown and ran for two, and rookie Chris Jacke kicked four field goals.

The AFC East fell into a three-way tie among Buffalo, Miami, and Indianapolis as the Bills sank to their fifth loss in seven games and fifth in a row on the road by falling to the 49ers 21-10.

Joe Montana sat out the game to heal his bruised ribs, but Roger Craig ran for 105 yards and a touchdown. Safety Ronnie Lott's 28-yard interception return not only set up another touchdown, but gave him 48 career interceptions for 617 yards, both San Francisco team records. The 49ers scored all three of their touchdowns following turnovers.

"We beat ourselves," Buffalo nose tackle Fred Smerlas said. "When you keep cutting your throat, eventually you run out of blood."

The Colts didn't beat themselves. They beat Miami, scoring the game's last 35 points to breeze 42-13. Jack Trudeau threw touchdown passes to four different receivers, and Eric Dickerson ran for 107 yards and two scores and caught nine passes. It was the fifty-eighth 100-yard game of Dickerson's career, tying Jim Brown for second place on the all-time list.

In Kansas City, the hot Chiefs jumped to a 13-0 lead over the Chargers, but San Diego roared back on the running of rookie Marion Butts to win 20-13. Butts, who weighs 248 pounds, rumbled for 176 yards on a team-record 39 carries and was assisted by a fellow rookie, quarterback Billy Joe Tolliver, who threw two touchdown passes.

Denver had cruised into post-season play in week 12, but the Broncos wrapped up the home-field advantage through the playoffs by zapping Phoenix 37-0. It was the Cardinals' fifth successive loss, four of them since head coach Gene Stallings was fired.

Linebacker Karl Mecklenburg returned a fumble 23 yards for a touchdown and the Broncos held the Cardinals to 101 yards and seven first downs. On offense, rookie Bobby Humphrey went over 1,000 yards for the year by rushing for 128. He also threw a 17-yard touchdown pass to another rookie running back, Melvin Bratton.

"I think [that play] should be put in the offensive game plan every week," Humphrey said. ◆

Dan Honda

Ronnie Lott's interception against Buffalo was the forty-eighth of his career, setting a 49ers' record.

Players of the Week

Al Messerschmidt

Colts' Jack Trudeau

George Rose

Rams' Brett Faryniarz

AFC OFFENSE—Jack Trudeau, quarterback, Indianapolis
Trudeau threw touchdown passes to four different receivers as Indianapolis blasted Miami 42-13.
AFC DEFENSE—David Fulcher, safety, Cincinnati
Fulcher recovered a fumble, intercepted three passes, made three tackles, and set up three touchdowns in the Bengals' 61-7 rout of Houston.
NFC OFFENSE—Mark Rypien, quarterback, Washington
Rypien passed for 284 yards and a touchdown and also ran for a score, rallying the Redskins from a 27-10 halftime deficit to a 31-30 victory over Atlanta. Art Monk caught six passes for 131 yards and two touchdowns (one from Doug Williams), and Ricky Sanders had seven catches for 167 yards.
NFC DEFENSE—Brett Faryniarz, linebacker, L.A. Rams
Faryniarz had three sacks, recovered two fumbles, forced a fumble, made three other tackles, and set up two touchdowns as the Rams cruised past the Jets 38-14.

Quote

Packers linebacker **Brian Noble**, summing up his joy after beating the Bears for the second time this season:

"If you had to go from a lemon to a candy cane, that's how sweet this is."

Mary Rubin

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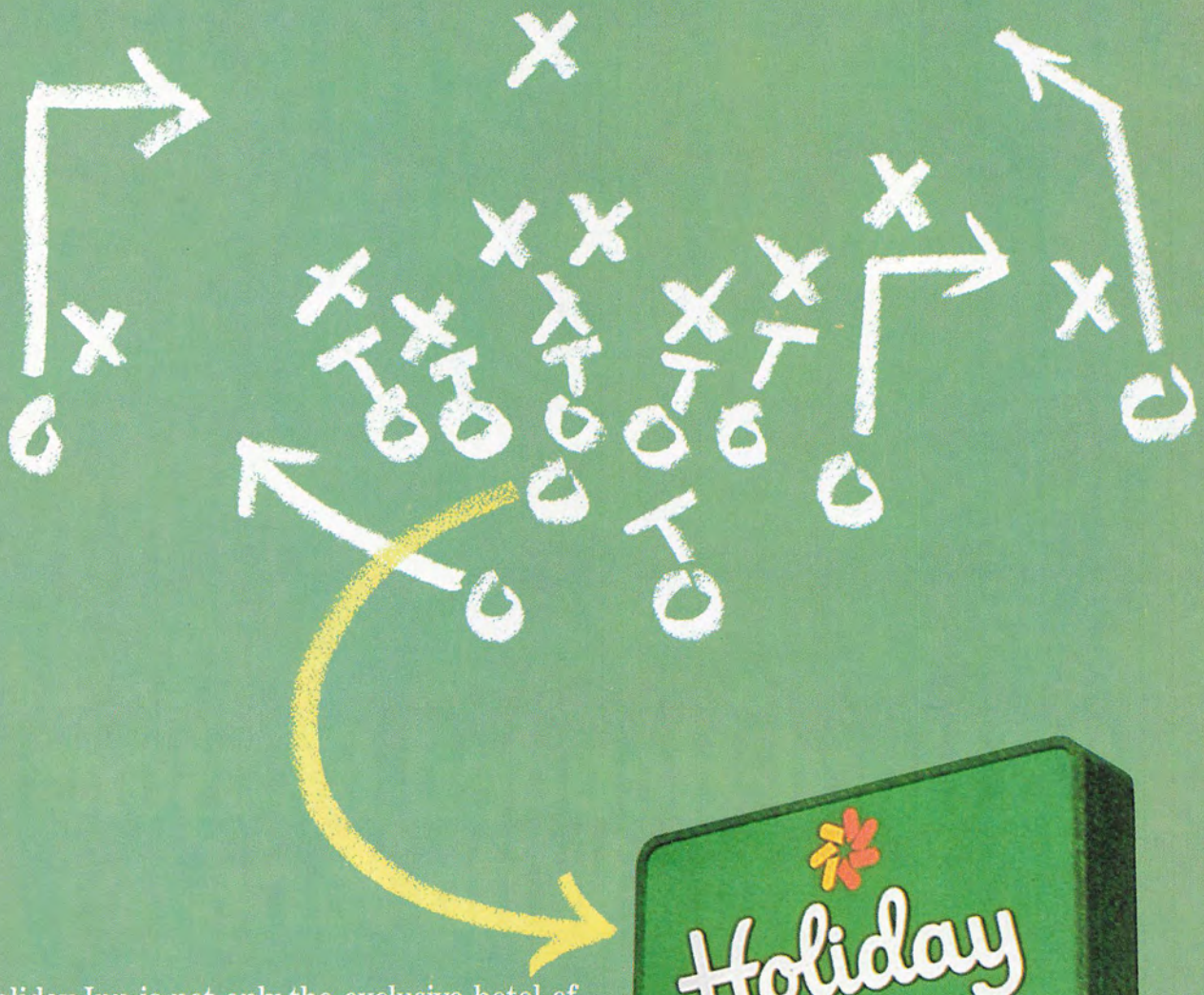

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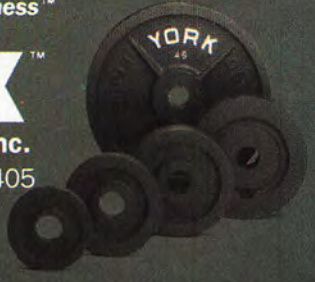

1989 Replay

December 23

THE BROWNS LED THE Oilers 17-13 late in the fourth quarter of their battle for the AFC Central title. Houston was on a drive until a bad center snap got away from Warren Moon.

Cleveland linebacker Clay Matthews scooped up the fumble and started to run—but he suddenly turned and lateraled the ball in the general direction of teammate Chris Pike, a tackle. Houston's Ernest Givins recovered the ill-timed pitch, and the Oilers scored on the next play to take the lead.

What was Matthews thinking?

"I play wide open," he quipped after the Browns had won anyway. "I'm a Lakers fan and it was showtime."

It was showtime all over the NFL in week 16 as 14 teams charged to the wire fighting for the last seven playoff spots. Joining the Super Bowl party were the Vikings, Rams, and Eagles in the NFC, and the Bills, Browns, Oilers, and Steelers in the AFC.

Four teams won division titles on the last weekend. The Browns won the AFC Central championship by edging Houston 24-20. The Bills won their second straight AFC East title, smashing the Jets 37-0. The Giants, already in the playoffs, clinched the NFC East title by hammering the Raiders 34-17. And the Vikings won the NFC Central championship with a 29-21 victory over Cincinnati in a Monday night classic. The loss eliminated the defending AFC-champion Bengals.

In Houston, Cleveland jumped ahead 17-0, but Warren Moon led a 20-point rally that produced a three-point Oilers lead. Moon threw 9- and 27-yard touchdown passes to Drew Hill—the latter coming with 4:46 left, one play after Matthews's infamous lateral.

But the Browns, who won their fourth division title in five years, drove 58 yards to the clinching touchdown, which Kevin Mack scored on a four-yard run with 39 seconds left. Despite the loss, the Oilers made the playoffs as a wild-card team.

The Vikings finished 8-0 at home. Minnesota jumped to a 19-0 second-quarter lead, then held off the Bengals, despite three touchdown passes and 367 yards from Boomer Esiason.

"It's a great feeling—the best feeling I've had in thirty-eight years of coaching," Vikings head coach Jerry Burns said of the NFC Central title. "There was a lot of pressure on us. If we had lost, all hell would have broken loose."

Big contributors included Wade Wilson, who passed for 303 yards and two touchdowns; defensive end Chris Doleman, who sacked Esiason four times; and Rich Karlis, who kicked five field goals.

The Vikings' win also eliminated the Packers from the playoffs,

Chris Schwenk

Lawrence Taylor sacked Steve Beuerlein on the first play as the Giants blasted the Raiders 34-17.

Quote

Raiders nose tackle **Bob Golic**, reporting the weather at his team's workout site, while the eastern United States shivered in winter cold:

"It's 75 degrees here, but with a wind chill of 74."

Marv Rubin

Pro Bowl Roster

American Football Conference	*National Football Conference*
OFFENSE	OFFENSE
Wide Receivers	**Wide Receivers**
Andre Reed, *Buffalo*	Jerry Rice, *San Francisco*
Webster Slaughter, *Cleveland*	Sterling Sharpe, *Green Bay*
Anthony Miller, *San Diego*	Henry Ellard, *L.A. Rams*
Brian Blades, *Seattle*	John Taylor, *San Francisco*
Tackles	**Tackles**
Anthony Muñoz, *Cincinnati*	Gary Zimmerman, *Minnesota*
Chris Hinton, *Indianapolis*	Jackie Slater, *L.A. Rams*
Tunch Ilkin, *Pittsburgh*	Luis Sharpe, *Phoenix*
Guards	**Guards**
Mike Munchak, *Houston*	Randall McDaniel, *Minnesota*
Bruce Matthews, *Houston*	Tom Newberry, *L.A. Rams*
Max Montoya, *Cincinnati*	Guy McIntyre, *San Francisco*
Centers	**Centers**
Ray Donaldson, *Indianapolis*	Jay Hilgenberg, *Chicago*
Kent Hull, *Buffalo*	Doug Smith, *L.A. Rams*
Tight Ends	**Tight Ends**
Rodney Holman, *Cincinnati*	Keith Jackson, *Philadelphia*
Ferrell Edmunds, *Miami*	Steve Jordan, *Minnesota*
Quarterbacks	**Quarterbacks**
Warren Moon, *Houston*	Joe Montana, *San Francisco*
Boomer Esiason, *Cincinnati*	Don Majkowski, *Green Bay*
Running Backs	**Running Backs**
Christian Okoye, *Kansas City*	Barry Sanders, *Detroit*
James Brooks, *Cincinnati*	Neal Anderson, *Chicago*
Thurman Thomas, *Buffalo*	Dalton Hilliard, *New Orleans*
Eric Dickerson, *Indianapolis*	Roger Craig, *San Francisco*
DEFENSE	**DEFENSE**
Ends	**Ends**
Bruce Smith, *Buffalo*	Chris Doleman, *Minnesota*
Lee Williams, *San Diego*	Reggie White, *Philadelphia*
Howie Long, *L.A. Raiders*	Charles Mann, *Washington*
Nose Tackles	**Nose Tackles**
Michael Dean Perry, *Cleveland*	Keith Millard, *Minnesota*
Greg Kragen, *Denver*	Jerry Ball, *Detroit*
Outside Linebackers	**Outside Linebackers**
Derrick Thomas, *Kansas City*	Tim Harris, *Green Bay*
Clay Matthews, *Cleveland*	Lawrence Taylor, *N.Y. Giants*
Leslie O'Neal, *San Diego*	Kevin Greene, *L.A. Rams*
Inside Linebackers	**Inside Linebackers**
Karl Mecklenburg, *Denver*	Mike Singletary, *Chicago*
John Offerdahl, *Miami*	Chris Spielman, *Detroit*
Shane Conlan, *Buffalo*	Vaughan Johnson, *New Orleans*
Cornerbacks	**Cornerbacks**
Albert Lewis, *Kansas City*	Jerry Gray, *L.A. Rams*
Frank Minnifield, *Cleveland*	Carl Lee, *Minnesota*
Kevin Ross, *Kansas City*	Eric Allen, *Philadelphia*
Safeties	**Safeties**
David Fulcher, *Cincinnati*	Joey Browner, *Minnesota*
Erik McMillan, *N.Y. Jets*	Ronnie Lott, *San Francisco*
Dennis Smith, *Denver*	Tim McDonald, *Phoenix*
SPECIALISTS	**SPECIALISTS**
Punter	**Punter**
Reggie Roby, *Miami*	Rich Camarillo, *Phoenix*
Placekicker	**Placekicker**
David Treadwell, *Denver*	Eddie Murray, *Detroit*
Kick Returner	**Kick Returner**
Rod Woodson, *Pittsburgh*	David Meggett, *N.Y. Giants*
Special Teamer	**Special Teamer**
Rufus Porter, *Seattle*	Ron Wolfley, *Phoenix*

Players are listed by position and in order of total number of votes received.

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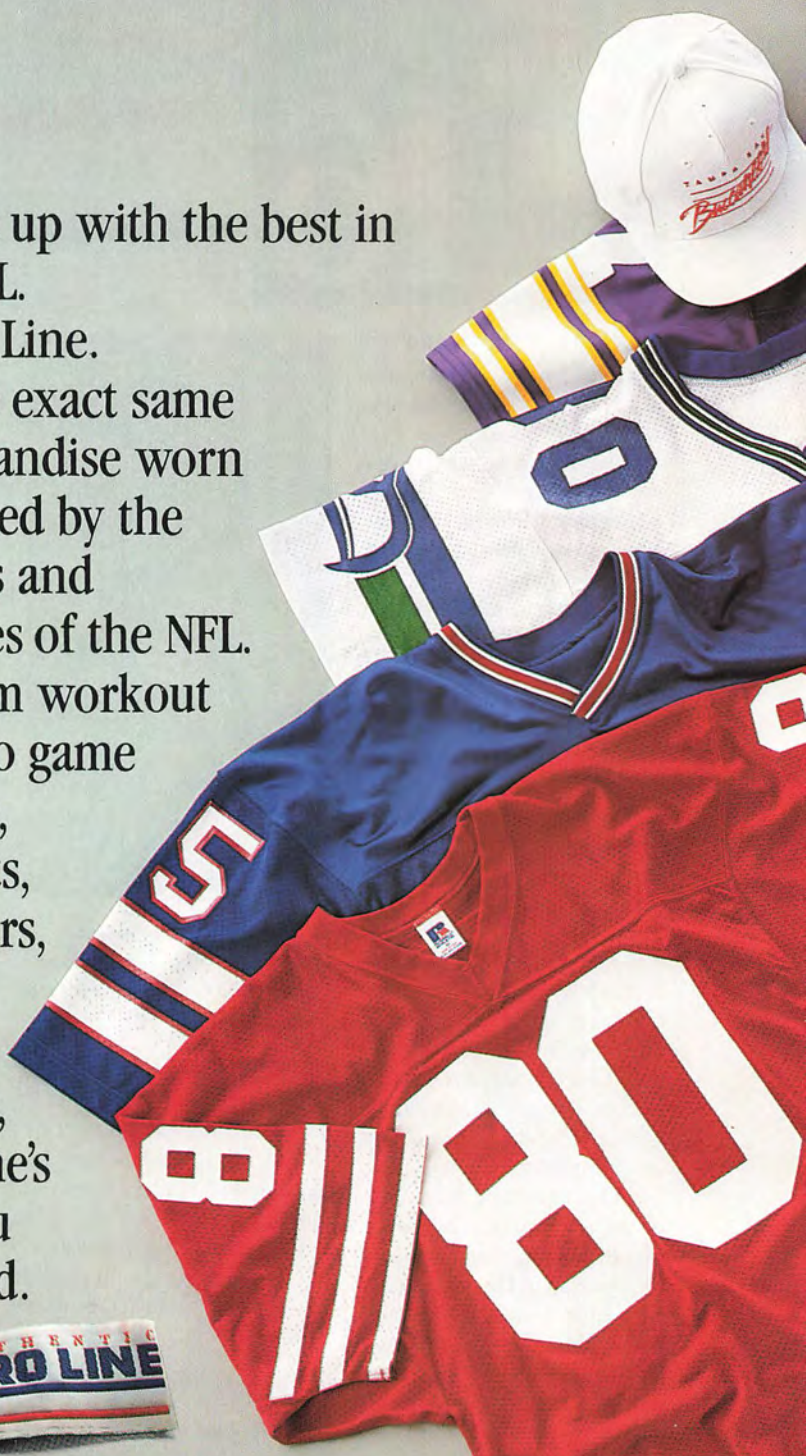

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Staco Visor (0944) $7.95

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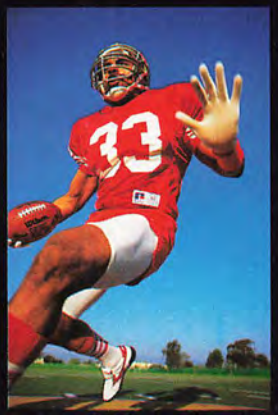

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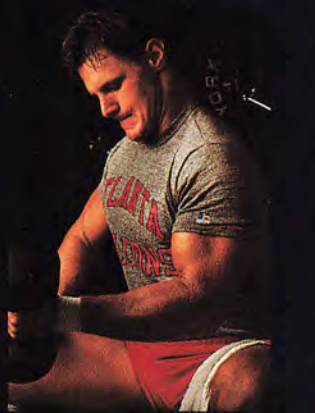

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but opened the door for the Steelers. Both of those teams made remarkable transformations this season.

Green Bay, 4-12 in 1988, won five of its last six games, including a 20-10 finale over Dallas, and finished 10-6—the team's best record since 1972. The Packers would have won the division title if Minnesota had lost, but they couldn't make it as a wild-card team in the fiercely competitive NFC.

The Steelers, 5-11 in 1988, lost their first two games this season by a combined score of 92-10. But they rallied to go 9-5 after that, including five wins in their last six games, to claim a wild-card berth. Pittsburgh finished with a 31-22 victory over Tampa Bay as Rod Woodson set up 10 points with a 72-yard kickoff return and a 39-yard interception return.

At the Meadowlands, the Giants found themselves in a 17-17 halftime tie with the Raiders, but then scored on three successive second-half possessions to produce their 17-point victory.

Rookie Dave Meggett carried a punt 76 yards for a touchdown, returned a kickoff 43 yards to set up a field goal, and returned another punt 24 yards to set up a field goal.

"You've got be somewhat of a psycho to be a punt returner, and that's Meggett," Giants running back Ottis Anderson said. "He believes that every time he touches the football he can make something happen."

Anderson, 32, made something happen, too, running for two touchdowns and finishing as a thousand-yard rusher (1,023).

It was easier for the Bills, who ignored a wind-chill factor of minus-11 degrees to rout the Jets 37-0. Three days later, Jets head coach Joe Walton and his staff were fired.

The Bills had lost five games in seven weeks, but rebounded to rush for 233 yards, including 91 yards and a touchdown from Larry Kinnebrew.

In frigid Foxboro (the wind-chill factor was 20 degrees below zero), the Rams clinched a wild-card bid in a breathtaking finish, hanging on to beat New England 24-20.

After Greg Bell, who ran for 210 yards, scored from the 3 with 1:55 left to put Los Angeles ahead, the Rams watched in horror as Steve Grogan drove the Patriots 59 yards right down the field...all the way to the Rams' 4.

From there, however, Grogan, who passed for 313 yards, threw incomplete three times in the last nine seconds.

The Eagles won the right to host the NFC Wild Card Game by running past the Cardinals 31-14. Everything broke right for head coach Buddy Ryan's team.

On a fake field-goal play, the snap got away from holder and backup quarterback Matt Cavanaugh, who was going to throw the ball. But kicker Roger Ruzek picked it up and heaved a 22-yard touchdown pass to wide-open Cris Carter.

"I think we have a chance to beat the 49ers if we get there," Ryan said.

The 49ers didn't look easy to beat, however. They finished with the NFL's best record, 14-2, shutting out the Bears 26-0 for their fifth successive win.

Joe Montana threw his usual touchdown pass to Jerry Rice and finished the season with an NFL-record quarterback rating of 112.4.

Two teams that were not going to the playoffs finished with a rush. The Redskins and Lions each won their last five games, with Washington, like Green Bay, sitting home with a 10-6 record.

The Redskins blanked the Seahawks 29-0 in the final game of Steve Largent's career. The Seattle wide receiver retired with four major NFL receiving records—most catches (819), receiving yards (13,089), touchdown catches (100), and successive games with a reception (177).

In Atlanta, Detroit downed the Falcons 31-24 as rookie Barry Sanders ran for 158 yards and three touchdowns. Sanders finished with a Lions-record 1,470 rushing yards and led the NFC. ◆

Players of the Week

Bill Amatucci

Steelers' Louis Lipps

Ron Vesely

Vikings' Chris Doleman

AFC OFFENSE—Louis Lipps, wide receiver, Pittsburgh
Lipps caught four passes for 137 yards, including 79- and 12-yard touchdown passes from Bubby Brister to lead Pittsburgh over Tampa Bay 31-22, giving the Steelers a wild-card berth.

AFC DEFENSE—Leslie O'Neal, linebacker, San Diego
O'Neal had eight solo tackles, including two of his team's seven sacks, and stole the ball from running back Bobby Humphrey to break up a drive as San Diego surprised Denver 19-16. The Chargers won at the gun on Chris Bahr's 45-yard field goal.

NFC OFFENSE—Greg Bell, running back, Los Angeles Rams
Bell rushed for 210 yards and scored the winning touchdown in the Rams' 24-20 victory over New England, giving them a wild-card berth.

NFC DEFENSE—Chris Doleman, end, Minnesota
Doleman had four sacks, two other tackles, and a fumble recovery as the Vikings outscored Cincinnati 29-21 to win the NFC Central title. Doleman finished the season with an NFL-leading 21 sacks.

George Rose

San Diego and Marion Butts (35) surprised Denver.

Final Standings

AFC East	W	L	T
Buffalo	9	7	0
Indianapolis	8	8	0
Miami	8	8	0
New England	5	11	0
N.Y. Jets	4	12	0
AFC Central			
Cleveland	9	6	1
Houston	9	7	0
Pittsburgh	9	7	0
Cincinnati	8	8	0
AFC West			
Denver	12	4	0
Kansas City	8	7	1
L.A. Raiders	8	8	0
Seattle	7	9	0
San Diego	6	10	0

NFC East	W	L	T
N.Y. Giants	12	4	0
Philadelphia	11	5	0
Washington	10	6	0
Phoenix	5	11	0
Dallas	1	15	0
NFC Central			
Minnesota	10	6	0
Green Bay	10	6	0
Detroit	7	9	0
Chicago	6	10	0
Tampa Bay	5	11	0
NFC West			
San Francisco	14	2	0
L.A. Rams	11	5	0
New Orleans	9	7	0
Atlanta	3	13	0

Scores

AFC
Buffalo 37, N.Y. Jets 0
Cleveland 24, Houston 20
Kansas City 27, Miami 24
San Diego 19, Denver 16
NFC
Detroit 31, Atlanta 24
Green Bay 20, Dallas 10
Philadelphia 31, Phoenix 13
San Francisco 26, Chicago 0
Interconference
L.A. Rams 24, New England 20
Minnesota 29, Cincinnati 21
New Orleans 41, Indianapolis 6
N.Y. Giants 34, L.A. Raiders 17
Pittsburgh 31, Tampa Bay 22
Washington 29, Seattle 0

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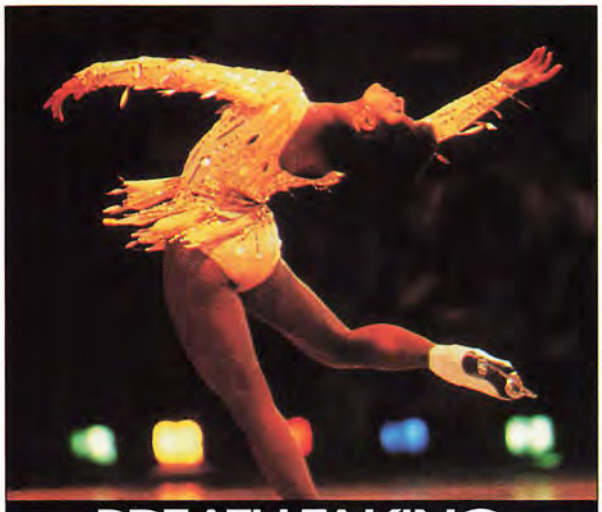

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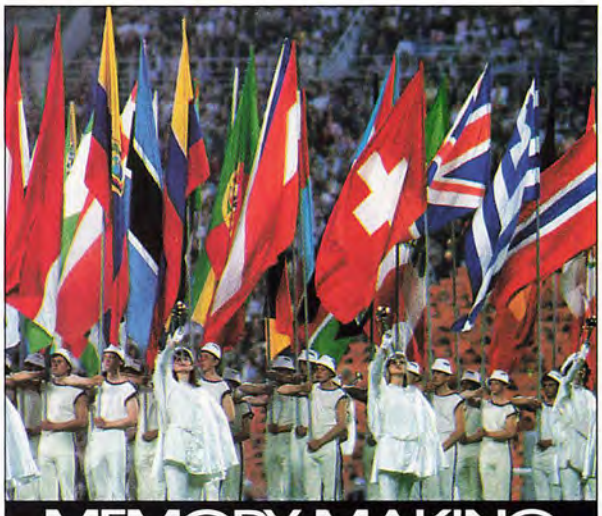

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1989 Replay

December 31

A WEEK BEFORE PLAYING the Rams in the NFC Wild Card Game, Eagles head coach Buddy Ryan was looking down the road in the playoffs.

"I think we have a chance to beat the 49ers if we get there," he said.

"They can go ahead and plan that flight to Frisco, but they ain't going," Rams quarterback Jim Everett said after the wild-card game.

Everett, Greg Bell, and a tight zone defense saw to that as the Rams went to Philadelphia and shut down the Eagles 21-7. It was the Rams' first playoff victory since 1985.

The home team lost in the AFC Wild Card Game, too, as the surprising Steelers eliminated the Oilers 26-23 on Gary Anderson's 50-yard field goal in the fourth minute of overtime.

"Our football team is on the way up," Pittsburgh head coach Chuck Noll said.

In fact, the Steelers and Rams both were riding the crest of a wave. The wild-card victory was the Rams' seventh win in their last eight games. The Steelers made it six in seven weeks, capturing their first playoff victory since 1984.

Paul Spinelli/NFLP

Kevin Greene (on ground) sacked Randall Cunningham twice as the Rams defeated the Eagles 21-7.

Paul Spinelli/NFLP

Greg Bell ran for 124 yards and the clinching touchdown for the Rams, setting up his own score with a 54-yard run.

Rams 21, Eagles 7

In a cold rain that fell most of the day, the Rams took a 14-0 lead on their first two series on a pair of touchdown passes by Everett and shut out the Eagles until the fourth quarter. Everett's scoring throws went 39 yards to Henry Ellard and 4 yards to Damone Johnson. Everett passed for 281 yards in all. For offensive balance, Bell ran for 124 yards and the fourth-quarter touchdown that clinched the game.

While Los Angeles gained 409 yards, the Eagles went nowhere most of the day against the Rams' zone defense.

"They played more zone than any team we've seen all year, and they played it better than any team," Eagles quarterback Randall Cunningham said. "We needed a big play, and they didn't let us get it."

The Eagles finally made enough little plays to drive 80 yards for the touchdown—Anthony Toney's one-yard run—that cut the score to 14-7 in the fourth quarter.

Still trying to protect that one-touchdown lead, the Rams got the ball on their own 16 with 5:44 left. Four plays later, Bell started inside, broke outside around left end behind a good block by fullback Buford McGee, and raced 54 yards to the Eagles' 10. He then picked up three and seven yards for the final touchdown with 2:14 left.

The loss was crushing for the Eagles, who had had high hopes.

"A lot of people are going to be seriously bummed out for a long time to lose this wild-card game," defensive tackle Mike Golic said.

The Rams, meanwhile, needed two more road victories to get to the Super Bowl, but they could see its glimmer over the horizon.

"It's growing on us," Everett said. "It's like the Rams can get there."

Steelers 26, Oilers 23

The Oilers looked as if *they* might win this game on an overtime field goal when they got the ball at the Pittsburgh 45 after a short punt.

But cornerback Rod Woodson hammered Houston running back Lorenzo White on first down, forced a fumble, and recovered it at the Oilers' 46. After a 14-yard advance, Anderson made the winning field goal, his fourth of the game.

"The Astrodome extends everybody a little bit," Anderson said. "I've always said, 'If you can't kick in a dome, you can't kick.'"

He almost didn't get a chance, however. The Steelers, who led through the first three quarters, had to rally to score in the last minute of play to get into overtime.

Bob Rosato

After kicking a 50-yard overtime field goal to win the game, Pittsburgh's Gary Anderson celebrated.

Trailing 16-9, Houston's Warren Moon led the Oilers on two fourth-quarter touchdown drives, which he culminated with 18- and 9-yard passes to Ernest Givins for a 23-16 lead. Moon passed for 315 yards in the game, while the elusive little Givins caught 11 of his throws for 136 yards.

"I thought we had it won," Givins said.

But Pittsburgh retaliated with an 82-yard, game-tying drive that included a 22-yard reverse by wide receiver Dwight Stone. Merril Hoge, who ran for 100 yards, tied the score at 23-23 on a two-yard touchdown run with 46 seconds left.

"We're going to fight to the end," Steelers quarterback Bubby Brister said. "You've got to kill us. We're not going to die." ◆

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1989 Replay

January 6, 7

NO TEAM HAS WON SUCcessive Super Bowls since the 1978-79 Steelers. A decade later, the 49ers were making a bold bid to match Pittsburgh's feat.

After reeling off the NFL's best record at 14-2, they opened their drive to Super Bowl XXIV by jumping all over the Minnesota Vikings 41-13.

"We were never in the ball game," Vikings head coach Jerry Burns said.

He was the only loser who could make that complaint, however, as every other divisional playoff game had a nerve-racking finish.

The wild-card Rams, who were on a roll of their own, joined the 49ers in the NFC Championship Game by rallying to stop the Giants 19-13 in overtime.

"You can't ask for anything more," Rams head coach John Robinson said of the upcoming showdown with the 49ers. "If you beat them, you go to the Super Bowl."

In the AFC, Cleveland and Denver set up their third title game showdown in four years by surviving against Buffalo and Pittsburgh.

The Browns clinched a 34-30 victory with three seconds left when linebacker Clay Matthews intercepted a Jim Kelly pass at the Browns' 1-yard line. In Denver, the Broncos rallied to beat Pittsburgh, the playoffs' Cinderella team, 24-23. Denver drove 71 yards to Melvin Bratton's one-yard scoring run for the winning touchdown with 2:27 left.

"It was one of those crazy, wild football games you get into once every three years," Browns head coach Bud Carson said of the game with Buffalo.

"We knew it was going to be a tough football game," Denver's John Elway said of the Pittsburgh confrontation. "Everyone else thought it was going to be a cakewalk."

Paul Spinelli/NFLP

Safety Chet Brooks set up a 49ers touchdown with this 28-yard interception return, one of four by San Francisco.

49ers 41, Vikings 13

It *was* a cakewalk in San Francisco, where Joe Montana threw four touchdown passes in the first half for a 27-3 lead. The 49ers never looked back.

The Vikings briefly led 3-0, but on the first play after the kickoff, Montana flipped a four-yard pass to Jerry Rice, who went 68 yards to complete a 72-yard scoring play. Rice also caught a 13-yard touchdown pass, and Montana rolled out and threw a pair of eight-yard scoring passes to John Taylor and tight end Brent Jones.

"Joe gets better every weekend," Rice said. "He's like a kid out there. He really enjoys the game and that's one reason why he's having so much success."

The 49ers' Roger Craig also had a lot of success, running for 125 yards and a touchdown. The defense intercepted four passes against three Minnesota quarterbacks. Safety Ronnie Lott returned one of them 58 yards for a touchdown, and safety Chet Brooks and cornerback Tim McKyer set up touchdowns with 28- and 41-yard returns.

The Vikings, who led the NFL in defense and sacks, never tackled Montana for a loss.

"They won't be beaten the rest of the year," defensive tackle Keith Millard said. "It doesn't matter who they'll play."

Rams 19, Giants 13

Willie (Flipper) Anderson caught only two passes for the Rams, but both went for touchdowns as Los Angeles came from behind twice and won in overtime at the Meadowlands. The winning play came 1:06 into the extra period when Jim Everett hit Anderson with a 30-yard strike at the goal line behind cornerback Mark Collins.

"We just kept poking away, poking away," Anderson said. "Sooner or later, somebody was going to make a big play."

The Rams also took advantage of two big breaks. The winning touchdown followed a 27-yard pass interference call on cornerback Sheldon White (defending against Anderson) that was hotly disputed by the Giants.

And Anderson's first touchdown—a 20-yard pass from Everett with 17 seconds left in the first half—came immediately after safety Michael Stewart's 29-yard interception return. The touchdown gave the Rams a 7-6 halftime lead.

Everett passed for 315 yards, including eight throws to Henry Ellard for 125 yards. Greg Bell balanced the attack with 87 yards rushing.

The Giants, who led 6-0 and 13-7, controlled the ball 4½ minutes more than the Rams, mainly on the 32-year-old legs of Ottis Anderson, who ran for 120 yards and a touchdown. But Los Angeles tied it on two fourth-quarter field goals by Mike Lansford, the final kick with 3:01 left.

"Is [the loss] hard to swallow?" said Giants quarterback Phil Simms. "You're damn right it is."

Al Messerschmidt

Flipper Anderson leaped... and the Giants fell as his touchdown catch in overtime gave the Rams a 19-13 victory.

Al Messerschmidt

Browns 34, Bills 30

In Cleveland, the Browns and Bills played a game-long highlight film.

Buffalo's Jim Kelly passed for four touchdowns and 405 yards, while Cleveland's Bernie Kosar passed for 251 yards and three touchdowns. Buffalo running back Thurman Thomas caught an NFL-playoff-record-equaling 13 passes for 150 yards and two touchdowns, and Cleveland rookie Eric Metcalf raced 90 yards to score on a third-quarter kickoff return.

Except for a bad break, the Bills could have tied the game at 34-34 and sent it into overtime. However, after Kelly threw his fourth scoring pass—his second to Thomas—with four minutes left, kicker Scott Norwood slipped on the extra-point attempt, and his off-balance kick went into the back of a Buffalo offensive lineman. That left the score at 34-30, instead of 34-31.

Buried under that happy pile of humanity is linebacker Clay Matthews, whose interception saved Cleveland.

Paul Spinelli/NFLP

"The field was icy and hard, and my cleats weren't digging in," Norwood said.

Still, when the Bills got the ball for a last chance, Kelly drove them 63 yards to the Browns' 11, from where he hit running back Ronnie Harmon in the hands in the far left corner of the end zone with nine seconds left—but Harmon couldn't handle the pass. On the next play, Matthews cut in front of Thomas to end the game with an interception.

"They'd been going to him all day," Matthews said. "I kind of had a feeling they'd try again."

Cleveland also got big performances from Webster Slaughter, who caught 52- and 44-yard scoring bombs from Kosar; Kevin Mack, who ran for 62 yards; and Matt Bahr, who kicked 45- and 47-yard field goals.

John Elway passed for 239 yards, ran for 44, and rallied Denver to a nervous 24-23 victory over Pittsburgh.

Broncos 24, Steelers 23

The young Steelers had barely made it into the playoffs, but they surprised Houston in the AFC Wild Card Game and jumped ahead of Denver 10-0 and 17-7 in the first half on the running and pass catching of tireless Merril Hoge.

Denver hadn't allowed an individual 100-yard rushing game all year, but Hoge ran for 100 in the first half—120 in all—caught eight passes for 60 yards, and scored on a seven-yard run. He was helped by rookie Tim Worley, who rushed for 50 yards and caught a pass for 33, and Bubby Brister, who passed for 229 yards and a touchdown.

"If you've got anything left after a game like that, there's something wrong with you," Hoge said.

But the Broncos had John Elway, rookie Bobby Humphrey, and a little bit of luck on their side.

They cut the lead to 17-10 at halftime on David Treadwell's 43-yard field goal that ricocheted off the left upright and over the crossbar. Then they tied the game at 17-17 in the third quarter on Elway's 37-yard scoring bullet down the middle to Vance Johnson. The touchdown came one play after a hit by Greg Kragen forced a Worley fumble and cornerback Tyrone Braxton recovered.

After the Steelers went ahead 23-17 on two Gary Anderson field goals—Anderson was seven-for-seven in the playoffs—Elway directed his winning 71-yard drive, which included a 36-yard flea-flicker pass to Johnson and several good runs by Humphrey, who rushed for 85 yards.

"I know we were down all day, but we had confidence we could come back," Humphrey said. ♦

Although Pittsburgh lost, Merril Hoge drove the Broncos crazy, rushing and catching passes for 180 yards.

Paul Spinelli/NFLP

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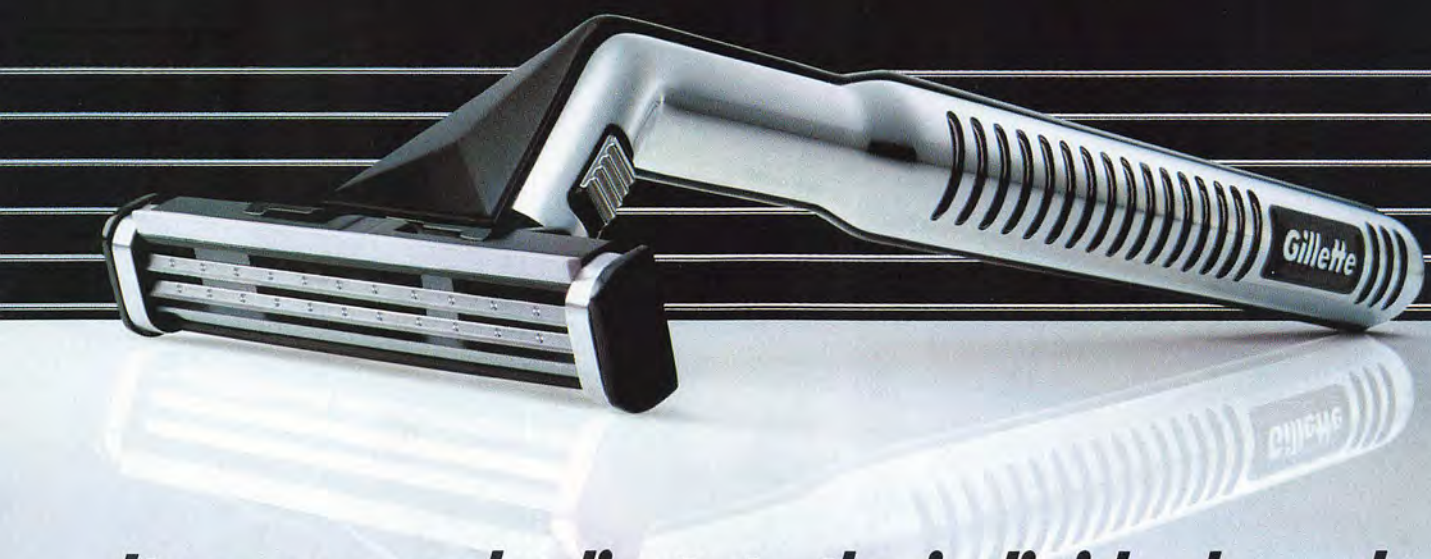

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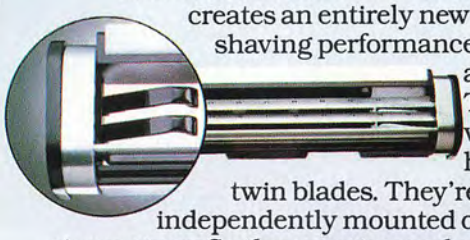

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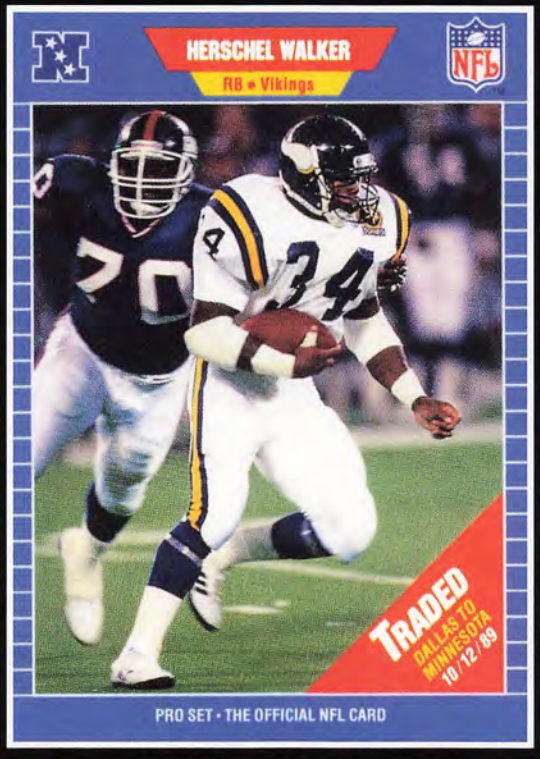

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1989 Replay

January 14

THE TWO SUPER BOWL coaches were excited about going to New Orleans. But they also were filled with wonder—over their own quarterbacks.

"John Elway was unbelievable," said Denver head coach Dan Reeves, after Elway led the Broncos past Cleveland 37-21 to win the AFC championship. "Today he showed everybody what a great athlete he really is."

In San Francisco, 49ers head coach George Seifert was just as happy with Joe Montana, who led his team to an astonishingly easy 30-3 victory over the Rams in the NFC Championship Game.

"Joe just keeps getting better and better," Seifert said. "His skills and leadership improve every week."

If Montana's skills and leadership get any better, he should be outlawed. Against the Rams, who had allowed only 20 points in their two playoff victories, the 33-year-old quarterback completed 26 of 30 passes for 262 yards and two touchdowns.

His six touchdown passes in two playoff games gave him 31 for his career, erasing former Steeler Terry Bradshaw's NFL record of 30.

"I just thank God I don't have to play against Joe," 49ers linebacker Michael Walter said.

Walter *will* have to play against Elway, who frustrated the Browns by scrambling all over the field to pass for 385 yards and three touchdowns. The Broncos' quarterback also set up his club's other touchdown with a 25-yard run.

"We're not a one-man team anymore," Broncos linebacker Karl Mecklenburg said. "But John Elway is still the key to this team."

Thus, the 49ers would get a chance to win their fourth Super Bowl in nine years, while Denver, heading for its third in four years, was looking for its first win.

Paul Spinelli / NFLP

Denver's John Elway destroyed Cleveland, running for 39 yards and passing for 385 and three touchdowns.

Broncos 37, Browns 21

For the third time in four years, Denver and Cleveland met in the AFC Championship Game, and for the third time Denver won. The Broncos are 11-1 against the Browns since 1975.

Denver ran and passed for 497 yards, despite losing leading rusher Bobby Humphrey for the game early in the second quarter with two cracked ribs.

Humphrey was replaced by veteran Sammy Winder, who ran seven yards for a touchdown and caught a 39-yard pass from Elway for another that boosted Denver's lead to 31-21 in the fourth quarter. It was a big play. Cleveland had just cut a 24-7 lead to 24-21.

Rugged fullback Tom Rathman helped the 49ers control the ball for nearly 40 minutes against the Rams.

"They just big-played us to death," Browns head coach Bud Carson said.

Elway was in the middle of most of those big plays. Besides his strike to Winder, he rolled out and threw a 70-yard touchdown pass to Michael Young, then later hit Young with a 53-yard bomb to set up a five-yard scoring lob to tight end Orson Mobley.

For Cleveland, Bernie Kosar completed only 19 of 44 passes, although he did throw 27- and 10-yard touchdown passes to Brian Brennan. Denver's defense, which sacked Kosar four times and intercepted three passes, really held Cleveland to 14 points. The Browns scored their third touchdown after safety Felix Wright returned a fumble 26 yards to the Denver 1.

The Broncos also got three field goals from David Treadwell, all set up by interceptions, two by safety Dennis Smith.

49ers 30, Rams 3

Just like last year, the 49ers raced through the playoffs without being tested. They outscored the Vikings and Rams 71-16 to run their current winning streak to seven in a row. It made Seifert only the third rookie coach to take a team to the Super Bowl.

The 49ers thoroughly dominated the Rams, outgaining them 442-156, reeling off 29 first downs to 9, and keeping the ball for nearly 40 minutes. While Montana was throwing strikes all day, Roger Craig high-stepped his way for 93 yards rushing and a touchdown, and Tom Rathman added 63 more. Eight 49ers caught passes.

"We were overwhelmed," Rams head coach John Robinson said. "Their defense was ferocious, and their offense is the most dominant, ball-control team I've ever seen."

The defense intercepted Jim Everett three times, holding the NFL's third-leading passer to 16 completions in 36 attempts for 141 yards.

"We came out to play hard and have fun," Everett said. "It sure didn't look like much fun."

What it had looked like before the kickoff was a great matchup. The two teams had split a pair of regular-season games by a total of four points, and, like the 49ers, the Rams were on a roll, having won eight of nine.

The Rams came out firing again, too, marching to a field goal by Mike Lansford on their first series. They carried that 3-0 lead into the second quarter, when the 49ers suddenly found their rhythm and outscored them 21-0 for a 21-3 halftime lead.

Montana led three touchdown drives in the second quarter, finishing off 89- and 87-yard drives with 20- and 18-yard scoring passes to tight end Brent Jones and John Taylor. Craig also scored from the 1 after cornerback Tim McKyer's interception return to the Rams' 27. The crushing blow came nine seconds before halftime, when Montana rifled the touchdown pass to Taylor. ◆

Al Messerschmidt

Individual Statistics

AFC LEADING PASSERS

	Att.	Comp.	Pct. Comp.	Yds.	Avg. Gain	TD	Pct. TD	Long	Int.	Pct. Int.	Rating
Boomer Esiason, Cincinnati	455	258	56.7	3525	7.75	28	6.2	74	11	2.4	92.1
Warren Moon, Houston	464	280	60.3	3631	7.83	23	5.0	55	14	3.0	88.9
Jim Kelly, Buffalo	391	228	58.3	3130	8.01	25	6.4	78	18	4.6	86.2
Bernie Kosar, Cleveland	513	303	59.1	3533	6.89	18	3.5	97	14	2.7	80.3
Dan Marino, Miami	550	308	56.0	3997	7.27	24	4.4	78	22	4.0	76.9
Steve DeBerg, Kansas City	324	196	60.5	2529	7.81	11	3.4	50	16	4.9	75.8
Dave Krieg, Seattle	499	286	57.3	3309	6.63	21	4.2	60	20	4.0	74.8
Ken O'Brien, N.Y. Jets	477	288	60.4	3346	7.01	12	2.5	57	18	3.8	74.3
John Elway, Denver	416	223	53.6	3051	7.33	18	4.3	69	18	4.3	73.7
Jim McMahon, San Diego	318	176	55.3	2132	6.70	10	3.1	69	10	3.1	73.5

NFC LEADING PASSERS

	Att.	Comp.	Pct. Comp.	Yds.	Avg. Gain	TD	Pct. TD	Long	Int.	Pct. Int.	Rating
Joe Montana, San Francisco	386	271	70.2	3521	9.12	26	6.7	95	8	2.1	112.4
Jim Everett, L.A. Rams	518	304	58.7	4310	8.32	29	5.6	78	17	3.3	90.6
Mark Rypien, Washington	476	280	58.8	3768	7.92	22	4.6	80	13	2.7	88.1
Bobby Hebert, New Orleans	353	222	62.9	2686	7.61	15	4.2	54	15	4.2	82.7
Don Majkowski, Green Bay	599	353	58.9	4318	7.21	27	4.5	79	20	3.3	82.3
Phil Simms, N.Y. Giants	405	228	56.3	3061	7.56	14	3.5	62	14	3.5	77.6
Chris Miller, Atlanta	526	280	53.2	3459	6.58	16	3.0	72	10	1.9	76.1
Randall Cunningham, Philadelphia	532	290	54.5	3400	6.39	21	3.9	66	15	2.8	75.5
Wade Wilson, Minnesota	362	194	53.6	2543	7.02	9	2.5	50	12	3.3	70.5
Gary Hogeboom, Phoenix	364	204	56.0	2591	7.12	14	3.8	59	19	5.2	69.5

AFC LEADING RUSHERS

	Att.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD
Christian Okoye, Kansas City	370	1480	4.0	59	12
Eric Dickerson, Indianapolis	314	1311	4.2	21	7
Thurman Thomas, Buffalo	298	1244	4.2	38	6
James Brooks, Cincinnati	221	1239	5.6	65	7
Bobby Humphrey, Denver	294	1151	3.9	40	7
Bo Jackson, L.A. Raiders	173	950	5.5	92	4
John Stephens, New England	244	833	3.4	35	7
Tim Worley, Pittsburgh	195	770	3.9	38	5
Johnny Hector, N.Y. Jets	177	702	4.0	24	3
Marion Butts, San Diego	170	683	4.0	50	9

NFC LEADING RUSHERS

	Att.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD
Barry Sanders, Detroit	280	1470	5.3	34	14
Neal Anderson, Chicago	274	1275	4.7	73	11
Dalton Hilliard, New Orleans	344	1262	3.7	40	13
Greg Bell, L.A. Rams	272	1137	4.2	47	15
Roger Craig, San Francisco	271	1054	3.9	27	6
Ottis Anderson, N.Y. Giants	325	1023	3.1	36	14
Herschel Walker, Dall.-Minn.	250	915	3.7	47	7
Gerald Riggs, Washington	201	834	4.1	58	4
Brent Fullwood, Green Bay	204	821	4.0	38	5
John Settle, Atlanta	179	689	3.8	20	3

AFC LEADING SCORERS, TOUCHDOWNS

	TD	Rush	Rec.	Ret.	Pts.
Christian Okoye, Kansas City	12	12	0	0	72
Thurman Thomas, Buffalo	12	6	6	0	72
Anthony Miller, San Diego	11	0	10	1	66
Eric Metcalf, Cleveland	10	6	4	0	60
James Brooks, Cincinnati	9	7	2	0	54
Marion Butts, San Diego	9	9	0	0	54
Mark Clayton, Miami	9	0	9	0	54
Mervyn Fernandez, L.A. Raiders	9	0	9	0	54
Rodney Holman, Cincinnati	9	0	9	0	54
Andre Reed, Buffalo	9	0	9	0	54

NFC LEADING SCORERS, TOUCHDOWNS

	TD	Rush	Rec.	Ret.	Pts.
Dalton Hilliard, New Orleans	18	13	5	0	108
Jerry Rice, San Francisco	17	0	17	0	102
Neal Anderson, Chicago	15	11	4	0	90
Greg Bell, L.A. Rams	15	15	0	0	90
Ottis Anderson, N.Y. Giants	14	14	0	0	84
Barry Sanders, Detroit	14	14	0	0	84
Sterling Sharpe, Green Bay	13	0	12	1	78
Cris Carter, Philadelphia	11	0	11	0	66
John Taylor, San Francisco	10	0	10	0	60
Herschel Walker, Dall.-Minn.	10	7	2	1	60

AFC LEADING SCORERS, KICKING

	PAT	FG	Long	Pts.
David Treadwell, Denver	39-40	27-33	46	120
Scott Norwood, Buffalo	46-47	23-30	48	115
Tony Zendejas, Houston	40-40	25-37	52	115
Nick Lowery, Kansas City	34-35	24-33	50	106
Jeff Jaeger, L.A. Raiders	34-34	23-34	50	103
Pete Stoyanovich, Miami	38-39	19-26	59	95
Dean Biasucci, Indianapolis	31-32	21-27	55	94
Gary Anderson, Pittsburgh	28-28	21-30	49	91
Matt Bahr, Cleveland	40-40	16-24	50	88
Chris Bahr, San Diego	29-30	17-25	53	80

NFC LEADING SCORERS, KICKING

	PAT	FG	Long	Pts.
Mike Cofer, San Francisco	49-51	29-36	47	136
Chris Lohmiller, Washington	41-41	29-40	48	128
Rich Karlis, Minnesota	27-28	31-39	51	120
Mike Lansford, L.A. Rams	51-51	23-30	48	120
Chris Jacke, Green Bay	42-42	22-28	52	108
Morten Andersen, New Orleans	44-45	20-29	49	104
Donald Igwebuike, Tampa Bay	33-35	22-28	53	99
Eddie Murray, Detroit	36-36	20-21	50	96
Greg Davis, N.E.-Atlanta	25-28	23-34	52	94
Kevin Butler, Chicago	43-45	15-19	46	88

AFC LEADING RECEIVERS

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Andre Reed, Buffalo	88	1312	14.9	78	9
Brian Blades, Seattle	77	1063	13.8	60	5
Vance Johnson, Denver	76	1095	14.4	69	7
John L. Williams, Seattle	76	657	8.6	51	6
Anthony Miller, San Diego	75	1252	16.7	69	10
Drew Hill, Houston	66	938	14.2	50	8
Webster Slaughter, Cleveland	65	1236	19.0	97	6
Tim McGee, Cincinnati	65	1211	18.6	74	8
Mark Clayton, Miami	64	1011	15.8	78	9
Bill Brooks, Indianapolis	63	919	14.6	55	4

NFC LEADING RECEIVERS

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Sterling Sharpe, Green Bay	90	1423	15.8	79	12
Mark Carrier, Tampa Bay	86	1422	16.5	78	9
Art Monk, Washington	86	1186	13.8	60	8
Jerry Rice, San Francisco	82	1483	18.1	68	17
Ricky Sanders, Washington	80	1138	14.2	68	4
Gary Clark, Washington	79	1229	15.6	80	9
Tom Rathman, San Francisco	73	616	8.4	36	1
Henry Ellard, L.A. Rams	70	1382	19.7	53	8
Richard Johnson, Detroit	70	1091	15.6	75	8
Eric Martin, New Orleans	68	1090	16.0	53	8

AFC LEADING PUNTERS

	No.	Yards	Long	Avg.
Greg Montgomery, Houston	56	2422	63	43.3
Rohn Stark, Indianapolis	79	3392	64	42.9
Reggie Roby, Miami	58	2458	58	42.4
Harry Newsome, Pittsburgh	82	3368	57	41.1
Jeff Gossett, L.A. Raiders	67	2711	60	40.5
Mike Horan, Denver	77	3111	63	40.4
Kelly Goodburn, Kansas City	67	2688	54	40.1
Hank Ilesic, San Diego	76	3049	64	40.1
Lee Johnson, Cincinnati	61	2446	62	40.1
Ruben Rodriguez, Seattle	75	2995	59	39.9

NFC LEADING PUNTERS

	No.	Yards	Long	Avg.
Rich Camarillo, Phoenix	76	3298	58	43.4
Jim Arnold, Detroit	82	3538	64	43.1
Sean Landeta, N.Y. Giants	70	3019	71	43.1
Ralf Mojsiejenko, Washington	62	2663	74	43.0
Scott Fulhage, Atlanta	84	3472	65	41.3
Mike Saxon, Dallas	79	3233	56	40.9
Don Bracken, Green Bay	66	2682	63	40.6
Barry Helton, San Francisco	55	2226	56	40.5
Bucky Scribner, Minnesota	72	2864	55	39.8
Tommy Barnhardt, New Orleans	55	2179	56	39.6

AFC LEADING PUNT RETURNERS

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD
Clarence Verdin, Indianapolis	23	296	12.9	49	1
Gerald McNeil, Cleveland	49	496	10.1	49	0
JoJo Townsell, N.Y. Jets	33	299	9.1	30	0
Mickey Sutton, G.B.-Buffalo	31	273	8.8	26	0
Rod Woodson, Pittsburgh	29	207	7.1	20	0
Ken Bell, Denver	21	143	6.8	24	0

NFC LEADING PUNT RETURNERS

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD
Walter Stanley, Detroit	36	496	13.8	74	0
Dave Meggett, N.Y. Giants	46	582	12.7	76	1
Vai Sikahema, Phoenix	37	433	11.7	53	0
John Taylor, San Francisco	36	417	11.6	37	0
Willie Drewrey, Tampa Bay	20	220	11.0	55	0
Deion Sanders, Atlanta	28	307	11.0	68	1
Leo Lewis, Minnesota	44	446	10.1	65	0
Joe Howard, Washington	21	200	9.5	38	0
Darryl Henley, L.A. Rams	29	273	9.4	25	0
Gizmo Williams, Philadelphia	30	267	8.9	24	0

AFC LEADING KICKOFF RETURNERS

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD
Rod Woodson, Pittsburgh	36	982	27.3	84	1
Marc Logan, Miami	24	613	25.5	97	1
Anthony Miller, San Diego	21	533	25.4	91	1
Sammy Martin, New England	24	584	24.3	38	0
James Jefferson, Seattle	22	511	23.2	97	1
Eric Metcalf, Cleveland	31	718	23.2	49	0
Stanford Jennings, Cincinnati	26	525	20.2	33	0
Ken Bell, Denver	30	602	20.1	33	0
Stefon Adams, L.A. Raiders	22	425	19.3	37	0
JoJo Townsell, N.Y. Jets	34	653	19.2	69	0

NFC LEADING KICKOFF RETURNERS

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD
Mel Gray, Detroit	24	640	26.7	57	0
James Dixon, Dallas	47	1181	25.1	97	1
Joe Howard, Washington	21	522	24.9	99	1
Dennis Gentry, Chicago	28	667	23.8	63	0
Dave Meggett, N.Y. Giants	27	577	21.4	43	0
Thomas Sanders, Chicago	23	491	21.3	96	1
A.J. Johnson, Washington	24	504	21.0	38	0
Deion Sanders, Atlanta	35	725	20.7	72	0
Ron Brown, L.A. Rams	47	968	20.6	74	0
Vai Sikahema, Phoenix	43	874	20.3	52	0

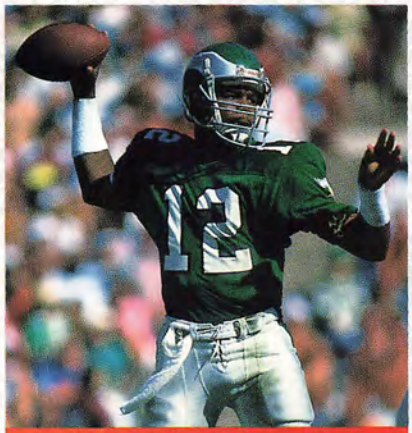
AFC LEADING INTERCEPTORS

	No.	Yards	Long	TD
Felix Wright, Cleveland	9	91	27	1
David Fulcher, Cincinnati	8	87	22	0
Keith Taylor, Indianapolis	7	225	80	1
Gill Byrd, San Diego	7	38	22	0
Erik McMillan, N.Y. Jets	6	180	92	1
Tyrone Braxton, Denver	6	103	34	1

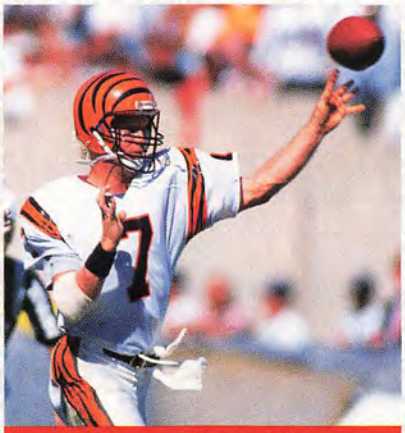
NFC LEADING INTERCEPTORS

	No.	Yards	Long	TD
Eric Allen, Philadelphia	8	38	18	0
Tim McDonald, Phoenix	7	170	53	1
Jerry Holmes, Detroit	6	77	36	1
Harry Hamilton, Tampa Bay	6	70	30	0
Dave Waymer, New Orleans	6	66	42	0
Jerry Gray, L.A. Rams	6	48	27	1

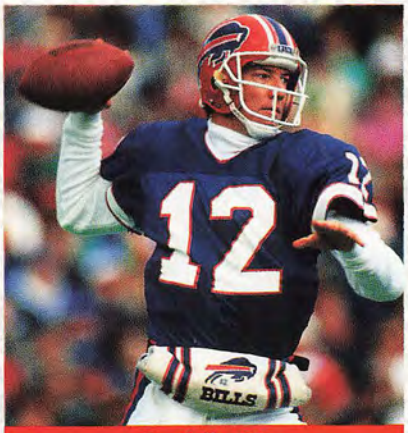
ONLY ONE CAN BE THE BEST.



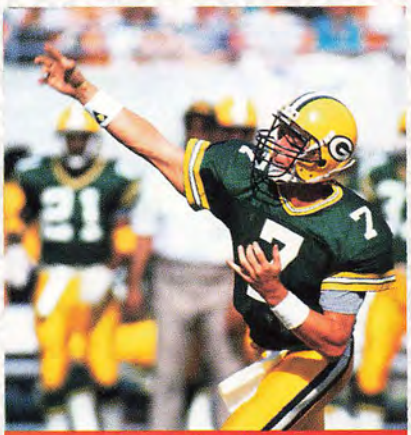
Randall Cunningham, QB
Philadelphia Eagles



Boomer Esiason, QB
Cincinnati Bengals

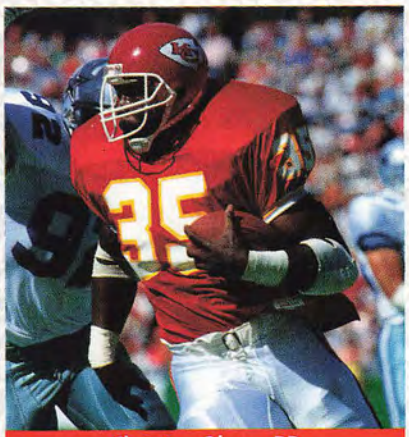


Jim Kelly, QB
Buffalo Bills



Don Majkowski, QB
Green Bay Packers

Joe Montana, QB
San Francisco 49ers



Christian Okoye, RB
Kansas City Chiefs

On January 24, the first Miller Lite NFL Player of the Year was chosen from among these six candidates. Congratulations to all!

THE NATION'S NEWSPAPER
USA TODAY
PUBLISHED BY GANNETT

NFL
PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Lite BEER

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AFC Results

BUFFALO BILLS

Sept. 10	at Miami	27-24
Sept. 18	DENVER (Mon.)	14-28
Sept. 24	at Houston*	47-41
Oct. 1	NEW ENGLAND	31-10
Oct. 8	at Indianapolis	14-37
Oct. 16	L.A. RAMS (Mon.)	23-20
Oct. 22	N.Y. JETS	34-3
Oct. 29	MIAMI	31-17
Nov. 5	at Atlanta	28-30
Nov. 12	INDIANAPOLIS	30-7
Nov. 19	at New England	24-33
Nov. 26	CINCINNATI	24-7
Dec. 4	at Seattle (Mon.)	16-17
Dec. 10	NEW ORLEANS	19-22
Dec. 17	at San Francisco	10-21
Dec. 23	at N.Y. Jets (Sat.)	37-0
W9 L7		**409-317**

CINCINNATI BENGALS

Sept. 10	at Chicago	14-17
Sept. 17	PITTSBURGH	41-10
Sept. 25	CLEVELAND (Mon.)	21-14
Oct. 1	at Kansas City	21-17
Oct. 8	at Pittsburgh	26-16
Oct. 15	MIAMI	13-20
Oct. 22	INDIANAPOLIS	12-23
Oct. 29	TAMPA BAY	56-23
Nov. 5	at L.A. Raiders	7-28
Nov. 13	at Houston (Mon.)	24-26
Nov. 19	DETROIT	42-7
Nov. 26	at Buffalo	7-24
Dec. 3	at Cleveland	21-0
Dec. 10	SEATTLE	17-24
Dec. 17	HOUSTON	61-7
Dec. 25	at Minnesota (Mon.)	21-29
W8 L8		**404-285**

CLEVELAND BROWNS

Sept. 10	at Pittsburgh	51-0
Sept. 17	N.Y. JETS	38-24
Sept. 25	at Cincinnati (Mon.)	14-21
Oct. 1	DENVER	16-13
Oct. 8	at Miami*	10-13
Oct. 15	PITTSBURGH	7-17
Oct. 23	CHICAGO (Mon.)	27-7
Oct. 29	HOUSTON	28-17
Nov. 5	at Tampa Bay	42-31
Nov. 12	at Seattle	17-7
Nov. 19	KANSAS CITY*	10-10
Nov. 23	at Detroit (Thanks.)	10-13
Dec. 3	CINCINNATI	0-21
Dec. 10	at Indianapolis*	17-23
Dec. 17	MINNESOTA*	23-17
Dec. 23	at Houston (Sat.)	24-20
W9 L6 T1		**334-254**

DENVER BRONCOS

Sept. 10	KANSAS CITY	34-20
Sept. 18	at Buffalo (Mon.)	28-14
Sept. 24	L.A. RAIDERS	31-21
Oct. 1	at Cleveland	13-16
Oct. 8	SAN DIEGO	16-10
Oct. 15	INDIANAPOLIS	14-3
Oct. 22	at Seattle*	24-21
Oct. 29	PHILADELPHIA	24-28
Nov. 5	PITTSBURGH	34-7
Nov. 12	at Kansas City	16-13
Nov. 20	at Washington (Mon.)	14-10
Nov. 26	SEATTLE	41-14
Dec. 3	at L.A. Raiders*	13-16
Dec. 10	N.Y. GIANTS	7-14
Dec. 16	at Phoenix (Sat.)	37-0
Dec. 24	at San Diego	16-19
W11 L5		**362-226**

HOUSTON OILERS

Sept. 10	at Minnesota	7-38
Sept. 17	at San Diego	34-27
Sept. 24	BUFFALO*	41-47
Oct. 1	MIAMI	39-7
Oct. 8	at New England	13-23
Oct. 15	at Chicago	33-28
Oct. 22	PITTSBURGH	27-0
Oct. 29	at Cleveland	17-28
Nov. 5	DETROIT	35-31
Nov. 13	CINCINNATI (Mon.)	26-24
Nov. 19	L.A. RAIDERS	23-7
Nov. 26	at Kansas City	0-34
Dec. 3	at Pittsburgh	23-16
Dec. 10	TAMPA BAY	20-17
Dec. 17	at Cincinnati	7-61
Dec. 23	CLEVELAND (Sat.)	20-24
W9 L7		**365-412**

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Sept. 10	SAN FRANCISCO	24-30
Sept. 17	at L.A. Rams	17-31
Sept. 24	ATLANTA	13-9
Oct. 1	at N.Y. Jets	17-10
Oct. 8	BUFFALO	37-14
Oct. 15	at Denver	3-14
Oct. 22	at Cincinnati	23-12
Oct. 29	NEW ENGLAND*	20-23
Nov. 5	at Miami	13-19
Nov. 12	at Buffalo	7-30
Nov. 19	N.Y. JETS	27-10
Nov. 26	SAN DIEGO	10-6
Dec. 3	at New England	16-22
Dec. 10	CLEVELAND*	23-17
Dec. 17	MIAMI	42-13
Dec. 24	at New Orleans	6-41
W8 L8		**298-301**

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

Sept. 10	at Denver	20-34
Sept. 17	L.A. RAIDERS	24-19
Sept. 24	at San Diego	6-21
Oct. 1	CINCINNATI	17-21
Oct. 8	at Seattle	20-16
Oct. 15	at L.A. Raiders	14-20
Oct. 22	DALLAS	36-28
Oct. 29	at Pittsburgh	17-23
Nov. 5	SEATTLE	20-10
Nov. 12	DENVER	13-16
Nov. 19	at Cleveland*	10-10
Nov. 26	HOUSTON	34-0
Dec. 3	MIAMI	26-21
Dec. 10	at Green Bay	21-3
Dec. 17	SAN DIEGO	13-20
Dec. 24	at Miami	27-24
W8 L7 T1		**318-286**

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS

Sept. 10	SAN DIEGO	40-14
Sept. 17	at Kansas City	19-24
Sept. 24	at Denver	21-31
Oct. 1	SEATTLE	20-24
Oct. 9	at N.Y. Jets (Mon.)	14-7
Oct. 15	KANSAS CITY	20-14
Oct. 22	at Philadelphia	7-10
Oct. 29	WASHINGTON	37-24
Nov. 5	CINCINNATI	28-7
Nov. 12	at San Diego	12-14
Nov. 19	at Houston	7-23
Nov. 26	NEW ENGLAND	24-21
Dec. 3	DENVER*	16-13
Dec. 10	PHOENIX	16-14
Dec. 17	at Seattle	17-23
Dec. 24	at N.Y. Giants	17-34
W8 L8		**315-297**

MIAMI DOLPHINS

Sept. 10	BUFFALO	24-27
Sept. 17	at New England	24-10
Sept. 24	N.Y. JETS	33-40
Oct. 1	at Houston	7-39
Oct. 8	CLEVELAND*	13-10
Oct. 15	at Cincinnati	20-13
Oct. 22	GREEN BAY	23-20
Oct. 29	at Buffalo	17-31
Nov. 5	INDIANAPOLIS	19-13
Nov. 12	at N.Y. Jets	31-23
Nov. 19	at Dallas	17-14
Nov. 26	PITTSBURGH	14-34
Dec. 3	at Kansas City	21-26
Dec. 10	NEW ENGLAND	31-10
Dec. 17	at Indianapolis	13-42
Dec. 24	KANSAS CITY	24-27
W8 L8		**331-379**

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Sept. 10	at N.Y. Jets	27-24
Sept. 17	MIAMI	10-24
Sept. 24	SEATTLE	3-24
Oct. 1	at Buffalo	10-31
Oct. 8	HOUSTON	23-13
Oct. 15	at Atlanta	15-16
Oct. 22	at San Francisco	20-37
Oct. 29	at Indianapolis*	23-20
Nov. 5	N.Y. JETS	26-27
Nov. 12	NEW ORLEANS	24-28
Nov. 19	BUFFALO	33-24
Nov. 26	at L.A. Raiders	21-24
Dec. 3	INDIANAPOLIS	22-16
Dec. 10	at Miami	10-31
Dec. 17	at Pittsburgh	10-28
Dec. 24	L.A. RAMS	20-24
W5 L11		**297-391**

NEW YORK JETS

Sept. 10	NEW ENGLAND	24-27
Sept. 17	at Cleveland	24-38
Sept. 24	at Miami	40-33
Oct. 1	INDIANAPOLIS	10-17
Oct. 9	L.A. RAIDERS (Mon.)	7-14
Oct. 15	at New Orleans	14-29
Oct. 22	at Buffalo	3-34
Oct. 29	SAN FRANCISCO	10-23
Nov. 5	at New England	27-26
Nov. 12	MIAMI	23-31
Nov. 19	at Indianapolis	10-27
Nov. 26	ATLANTA	27-7
Dec. 3	at San Diego	20-17
Dec. 10	PITTSBURGH	0-13
Dec. 17	at L.A. Rams	14-38
Dec. 23	BUFFALO (Sat.)	0-37
W4 L12		**253-411**

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Sept. 10	CLEVELAND	0-51
Sept. 17	at Cincinnati	10-41
Sept. 24	MINNESOTA	27-14
Oct. 1	at Detroit	23-3
Oct. 8	CINCINNATI	16-26
Oct. 15	at Cleveland	17-7
Oct. 22	at Houston	0-27
Oct. 29	KANSAS CITY	23-17
Nov. 5	at Denver	7-34
Nov. 12	CHICAGO	0-20
Nov. 19	SAN DIEGO	20-17
Nov. 26	at Miami	34-14
Dec. 3	HOUSTON	16-23
Dec. 10	at N.Y. Jets	13-0
Dec. 17	NEW ENGLAND	28-10
Dec. 24	at Tampa Bay	31-22
W9 L7		**265-326**

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Sept. 10	at L.A. Raiders	14-40
Sept. 17	HOUSTON	27-34
Sept. 24	KANSAS CITY	21-6
Oct. 1	at Phoenix	24-13
Oct. 8	at Denver	10-16
Oct. 15	SEATTLE	16-17
Oct. 22	N.Y. GIANTS	13-20
Oct. 29	at Seattle	7-10
Nov. 5	PHILADELPHIA	20-17
Nov. 12	L.A. RAIDERS	14-12
Nov. 19	at Pittsburgh	17-20
Nov. 26	at Indianapolis	6-10
Dec. 3	N.Y. JETS	17-20
Dec. 10	at Washington	21-26
Dec. 17	at Kansas City	20-13
Dec. 24	DENVER	19-16
W6 L10		**266-290**

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Sept. 10	at Philadelphia	7-31
Sept. 17	PHOENIX	24-34
Sept. 24	at New England	24-3
Oct. 1	at L.A. Raiders	24-20
Oct. 8	KANSAS CITY	16-20
Oct. 15	at San Diego	17-16
Oct. 22	DENVER*	21-24
Oct. 29	SAN DIEGO	10-7
Nov. 5	at Kansas City	10-20
Nov. 12	CLEVELAND	7-17
Nov. 19	at N.Y. Giants	3-15
Nov. 26	at Denver	14-41
Dec. 4	BUFFALO (Mon.)	17-16
Dec. 10	at Cincinnati	24-17
Dec. 17	L.A. RAIDERS	23-17
Dec. 23	WASHINGTON (Sat.)	0-29
W7 L9		**241-327**

1989 AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Buffalo	9	7	0	.563	409	317
Miami	8	8	0	.500	331	379
Indianapolis	8	8	0	.500	298	301
New England	5	11	0	.313	297	391
N.Y. Jets	4	12	0	.250	253	411

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Cleveland	9	6	1	.594	334	254
Houston	9	7	0	.563	365	412
Pittsburgh	9	7	0	.563	265	326
Cincinnati	8	8	0	.500	404	285

Western Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Denver	11	5	0	.688	362	226
Kansas City	8	7	1	.531	318	286
L.A. Raiders	8	8	0	.500	315	297
Seattle	7	9	0	.438	241	327
San Diego	6	10	0	.375	266	290

Wild Card Game
Pittsburgh 26, Houston 23 (OT)
Divisional Playoffs
Denver 24, Pittsburgh 23
Cleveland 34, Buffalo 30
Championship Game
Denver 37, Cleveland 21

* Overtime

1989 Replay

NFC Results

ATLANTA FALCONS

Sept. 10	L.A. RAMS	21-31
Sept. 17	DALLAS	27-21
Sept. 24	at Indianapolis	9-13
Oct. 1	vs. Green Bay at Milw.	21-23
Oct. 8	at L.A. Rams	14-26
Oct. 15	NEW ENGLAND	16-15
Oct. 22	at Phoenix	20-34
Oct. 29	at New Orleans	13-20
Nov. 5	BUFFALO	30-28
Nov. 12	at San Francisco	3-45
Nov. 19	NEW ORLEANS	17-26
Nov. 26	at N.Y. Jets	7-27
Dec. 3	SAN FRANCISCO	10-23
Dec. 10	at Minnesota	17-43
Dec. 17	WASHINGTON	30-31
Dec. 24	DETROIT	24-31
W3 L13		**279-437**

CHICAGO BEARS

Sept. 10	CINCINNATI	17-14
Sept. 17	MINNESOTA	38-7
Sept. 24	at Detroit	42-27
Oct. 2	PHIL. (Mon.)	27-13
Oct. 8	at Tampa Bay	35-42
Oct. 15	HOUSTON	28-33
Oct. 23	at Cleveland (Mon.)	7-27
Oct. 29	L.A. RAMS	20-10
Nov. 5	at Green Bay	13-14
Nov. 12	at Pittsburgh	20-0
Nov. 19	TAMPA BAY	31-32
Nov. 26	at Washington	14-38
Dec. 3	at Minnesota	16-27
Dec. 10	DETROIT	17-27
Dec. 17	GREEN BAY	28-40
Dec. 24	at San Francisco	0-26
W6 L10		**358-377**

DALLAS COWBOYS

Sept. 10	at New Orleans	0-28
Sept. 17	at Atlanta	21-27
Sept. 24	WASHINGTON	7-30
Oct. 1	N.Y. GIANTS	13-30
Oct. 8	at Green Bay	13-31
Oct. 15	SAN FRANCISCO	14-31
Oct. 22	at Kansas City	28-36
Oct. 29	PHOENIX	10-19
Nov. 5	at Washington	13-3
Nov. 12	at Phoenix	20-24
Nov. 19	MIAMI	14-17
Nov. 23	PHIL. (Thanks.)	0-27
Dec. 3	L.A. RAMS	31-35
Dec. 10	at Philadelphia	10-20
Dec. 16	at N.Y. Giants (Sat.)	0-15
Dec. 24	GREEN BAY	10-20
W1 L15		**204-393**

DETROIT LIONS

Sept. 10	PHOENIX	13-16
Sept. 17	at N.Y. Giants	14-24
Sept. 24	CHICAGO	27-47
Oct. 1	PITTSBURGH	3-23
Oct. 8	at Minnesota	17-24
Oct. 15	at Tampa Bay	17-16
Oct. 22	MINNESOTA	7-20
Oct. 29	vs. Green Bay at Milw.*	20-23
Nov. 5	at Houston	31-35
Nov. 12	GREEN BAY	31-22
Nov. 19	at Cincinnati	7-42
Nov. 23	CLEVE. (Thanks.)	13-10
Dec. 3	NEW ORLEANS	21-14
Dec. 10	at Chicago	27-17
Dec. 17	TAMPA BAY	33-7
Dec. 24	at Atlanta	31-24
W7 L9		**312-364**

GREEN BAY PACKERS

Sept. 10	TAMPA BAY	21-23
Sept. 17	NEW ORLEANS	35-34
Sept. 24	at L.A. Rams	38-41
Oct. 1	ATLANTA at Milw.	23-21
Oct. 8	DALLAS	31-13
Oct. 15	at Minnesota	14-26
Oct. 22	at Miami	20-23
Oct. 29	DETROIT at Milw.*	23-20
Nov. 5	CHICAGO	14-13
Nov. 12	at Detroit	22-31
Nov. 19	at San Francisco	21-17
Nov. 26	MINNESOTA at Milw.	20-19
Dec. 3	at Tampa Bay	17-16
Dec. 10	KANSAS CITY	3-21
Dec. 17	at Chicago	40-28
Dec. 24	at Dallas	20-10
W10 L6		**362-356**

LOS ANGELES RAMS

Sept. 10	at Atlanta	31-21
Sept. 17	INDIANAPOLIS	31-17
Sept. 24	GREEN BAY	41-38
Oct. 1	at San Francisco	13-12
Oct. 8	ATLANTA	26-14
Oct. 16	at Buffalo (Mon.)	20-23
Oct. 22	NEW ORLEANS	21-40
Oct. 29	at Chicago	10-20
Nov. 5	at Minnesota*	21-23
Nov. 12	N.Y. GIANTS	31-10
Nov. 19	PHOENIX	37-14
Nov. 26	at New Orleans*	20-17
Dec. 3	at Dallas	35-31
Dec. 11	SAN FRAN. (Mon.)	27-30
Dec. 17	N.Y. JETS	38-14
Dec. 24	at New England	24-20
W11 L5		**426-344**

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Sept. 10	HOUSTON	38-7
Sept. 17	at Chicago	7-38
Sept. 24	at Pittsburgh	14-27
Oct. 1	TAMPA BAY	17-3
Oct. 8	DETROIT	24-17
Oct. 15	GREEN BAY	26-14
Oct. 22	at Detroit	20-7
Oct. 30	at N.Y. Giants (Mon.)	14-24
Nov. 5	L.A. RAMS*	23-21
Nov. 12	at Tampa Bay	24-10
Nov. 19	at Philadelphia	9-10
Nov. 26	vs. Green Bay at Milw.	19-20
Dec. 3	CHICAGO	27-16
Dec. 10	ATLANTA	43-17
Dec. 17	at Cleveland*	17-23
Dec. 25	CINCINNATI (Mon.)	29-21
W10 L6		**351-275**

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Sept. 10	DALLAS	28-0
Sept. 17	at Green Bay	34-35
Sept. 24	at Tampa Bay	10-20
Oct. 1	WASHINGTON	14-16
Oct. 8	SAN FRANCISCO	20-24
Oct. 15	N.Y. JETS	29-14
Oct. 22	at L.A. Rams	40-21
Oct. 29	ATLANTA	20-13
Nov. 6	at San Fran. (Mon.)	13-31
Nov. 12	at New England	28-24
Nov. 19	at Atlanta	26-17
Nov. 26	L.A. RAMS*	17-20
Dec. 3	at Detroit	14-21
Dec. 10	at Buffalo	22-19
Dec. 18	PHIL. (Mon.)	30-20
Dec. 24	INDIANAPOLIS	41-6
W9 L7		**386-301**

NEW YORK GIANTS

Sept. 11	at Washington (Mon.)	27-24
Sept. 17	DETROIT	24-14
Sept. 24	PHOENIX	35-7
Oct. 1	at Dallas	30-13
Oct. 8	at Philadelphia	19-21
Oct. 15	WASHINGTON	20-17
Oct. 22	at San Diego	20-13
Oct. 30	MINNESOTA (Mon.)	24-14
Nov. 5	at Phoenix	20-13
Nov. 12	at L.A. Rams	10-31
Nov. 19	SEATTLE	15-3
Nov. 27	at San Fran. (Mon.)	24-34
Dec. 3	PHILADELPHIA	17-24
Dec. 10	at Denver	14-7
Dec. 16	DALLAS (Sat.)	15-0
Dec. 24	L.A. RAIDERS	34-17
W12 L4		**348-252**

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Sept. 10	SEATTLE	31-7
Sept. 17	at Washington	42-37
Sept. 24	SAN FRANCISCO	28-38
Oct. 2	at Chicago (Mon.)	13-27
Oct. 8	N.Y. GIANTS	21-19
Oct. 15	at Phoenix	17-5
Oct. 22	L.A. RAIDERS	10-7
Oct. 29	at Denver	28-24
Nov. 5	at San Diego	17-20
Nov. 12	WASHINGTON	3-10
Nov. 19	MINNESOTA	10-9
Nov. 23	at Dallas (Thanks.)	27-0
Dec. 3	at N.Y. Giants	24-17
Dec. 10	DALLAS	20-10
Dec. 18	at New Orleans (Mon.)	20-30
Dec. 24	PHOENIX	31-14
W11 L5		**342-274**

PHOENIX CARDINALS

Sept. 10	at Detroit	16-13
Sept. 17	at Seattle	34-24
Sept. 24	at N.Y. Giants	7-35
Oct. 1	SAN DIEGO	13-24
Oct. 8	at Washington	28-30
Oct. 15	PHILADELPHIA	5-17
Oct. 22	ATLANTA	34-20
Oct. 29	at Dallas	19-10
Nov. 5	N.Y. GIANTS	13-20
Nov. 12	DALLAS	24-20
Nov. 19	at L.A. Rams	14-37
Nov. 26	TAMPA BAY	13-14
Dec. 3	WASHINGTON	10-29
Dec. 10	at L.A. Raiders	14-16
Dec. 16	DENVER (Sat.)	0-37
Dec. 24	at Philadelphia	14-31
W5 L11		**258-377**

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Sept. 10	at Indianapolis	30-24
Sept. 17	at Tampa Bay	20-16
Sept. 24	at Philadelphia	38-28
Oct. 1	L.A. RAMS	12-13
Oct. 8	at New Orleans	24-20
Oct. 15	at Dallas	31-14
Oct. 22	NEW ENGLAND	37-20
Oct. 29	at N.Y. Jets	23-10
Nov. 6	NEW ORL. (Mon.)	31-13
Nov. 12	ATLANTA	45-3
Nov. 19	GREEN BAY	17-21
Nov. 27	N.Y. GIANTS (Mon.)	34-24
Dec. 3	at Atlanta	23-10
Dec. 11	at L.A. Rams (Mon.)	30-27
Dec. 17	BUFFALO	21-10
Dec. 24	CHICAGO	26-0
W14 L2		**442-253**

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

Sept. 10	at Green Bay	23-21
Sept. 17	SAN FRANCISCO	16-20
Sept. 24	NEW ORLEANS	20-10
Oct. 1	at Minnesota	3-17
Oct. 8	CHICAGO	42-35
Oct. 15	DETROIT	16-17
Oct. 22	at Washington	28-32
Oct. 29	at Cincinnati	23-56
Nov. 5	CLEVELAND	31-42
Nov. 12	MINNESOTA	10-24
Nov. 19	at Chicago	32-31
Nov. 26	at Phoenix	14-13
Dec. 3	GREEN BAY	16-17
Dec. 10	at Houston	17-20
Dec. 17	at Detroit	7-33
Dec. 24	PITTSBURGH	22-31
W5 L11		**320-419**

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

Sept. 11	N.Y. GIANTS (Mon.)	24-27
Sept. 17	PHILADELPHIA	37-42
Sept. 24	at Dallas	30-7
Oct. 1	at New Orleans	16-14
Oct. 8	PHOENIX	30-28
Oct. 15	at N.Y. Giants	17-20
Oct. 22	TAMPA BAY	32-28
Oct. 29	at L.A. Raiders	24-37
Nov. 5	DALLAS	3-13
Nov. 12	at Philadelphia	10-3
Nov. 20	DENVER (Mon.)	10-14
Nov. 26	CHICAGO	38-14
Dec. 3	at Phoenix	29-10
Dec. 10	SAN DIEGO	26-21
Dec. 17	at Atlanta	31-30
Dec. 23	at Seattle (Sat.)	29-0
W10 L6		**386-308**

1989 NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
N.Y. Giants	12	4	0	.750	348	252
Philadelphia	11	5	0	.688	342	274
Washington	10	6	0	.625	386	308
Phoenix	5	11	0	.313	258	377
Dallas	1	15	0	.063	204	393

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Minnesota	10	6	0	.625	351	275
Green Bay	10	6	0	.625	362	356
Detroit	7	9	0	.438	312	364
Chicago	6	10	0	.375	358	377
Tampa Bay	5	11	0	.313	320	419

Western Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
San Francisco	14	2	0	.875	442	253
L.A. Rams	11	5	0	.688	426	344
New Orleans	9	7	0	.563	386	301
Atlanta	3	13	0	.188	279	437

Wild Card Game
L.A. Rams 21, Philadelphia 7
Divisional Playoffs
L.A. Rams 19, N.Y. Giants 13 (OT)
San Francisco 41, Minnesota 13
Championship Game
San Francisco 30, L.A. Rams 3

* Overtime

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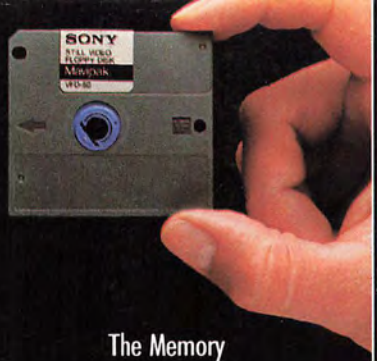

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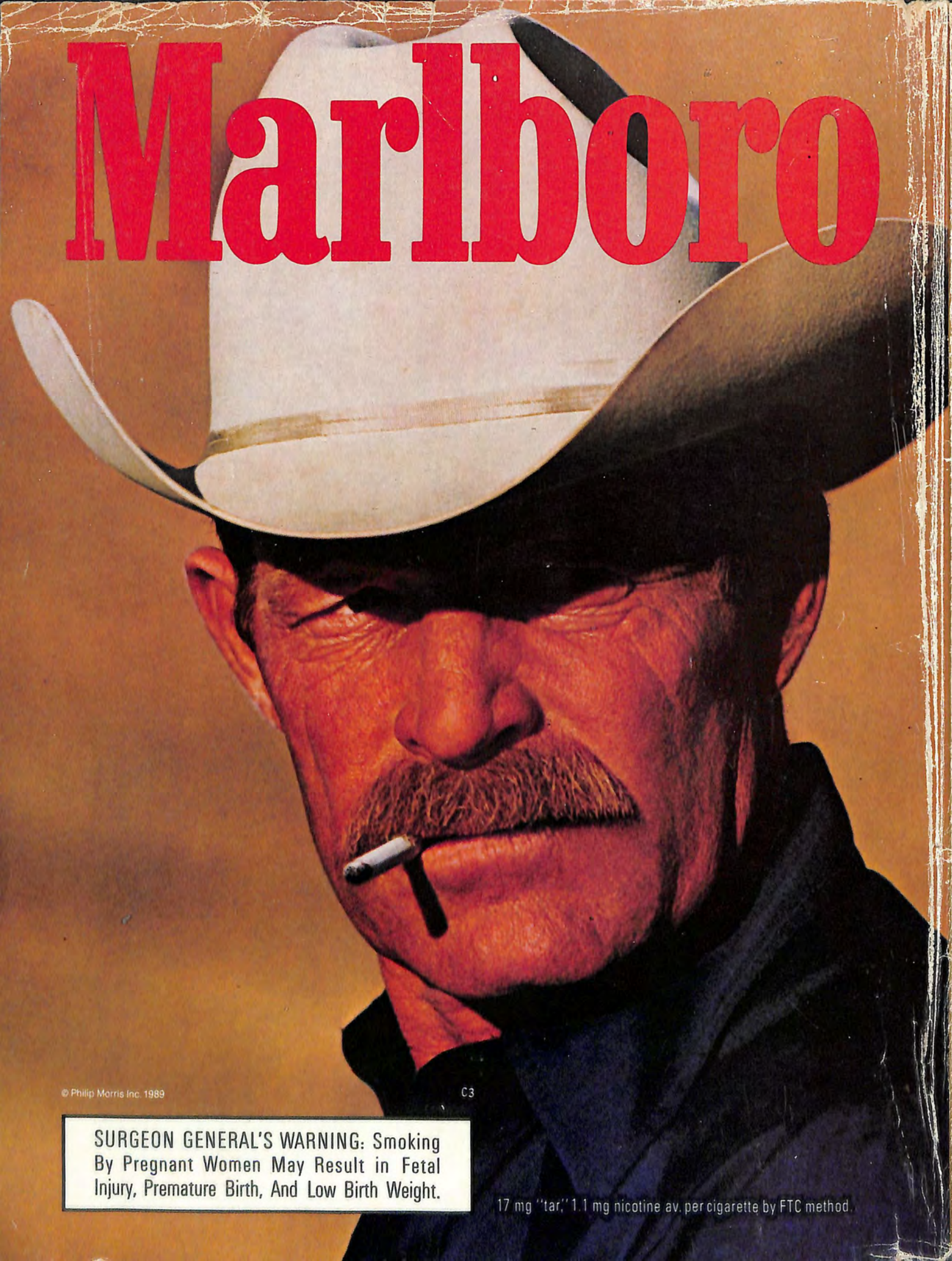
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